MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

14 JANUARY 1983

Lebanon-Israel Negotiations

Agreement on Agenda -- Israel and Lebanon agreed on a six-point agenda for further negotiations during their 13 January talks in Qiryat Shemona, Jerusalem and Beirut radios reported. Both radios noted that the topics to be discussed are: ending the state of war; security arrangements; a framework for mutual relations, including "liaison"; withdrawal of all foreign forces; withdrawal of Israeli forces, and possible guarantees. The delegations also agreed on several footnotes to the agenda including the points that each side may propose additional subjects for discussion and that each side's agreement to discuss each agenda topic is not a commitment that those topics will ultimately be accepted, Jerusalem radio reported.

Once agreement was reached on the agenda, the delegations began discussing how to end the state of war, Beirut and Jerusalem radios revealed. Although earlier reports from both radios indicated that the agenda topics would be discussed simultaneously, Jerusalem radio termed the discussion "the first item on the agenda," while Beirut described the discussion as "one of the items on the agenda."

Habib Proposal -- Presidential envoy Philip Habib has proposed that foreign forces begin withdrawing from Lebanon on 12 February, Jerusalem radio revealed. In a related development the Lebanese Government has reportedly complained that Israel is establishing sophisticated early warning stations in Jabal al-Baruk which will be capable of monitoring military movements from the Gulf to the Sinai, Jerusalem radio revealed. Lebanon is concerned that such an "enormous investment" indicates that Israel intends to remain on Jabal al-Baruk even after the IDF withdraws, the radio added.

Al-Wazzan Comment -- Following a political discussion chaired by Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan described the results of the 13 January talks as "satisfactory," but cautioned that the issue of withdrawal "can absolutely not be subjected to bargaining," according to Beirut radio reports. The prime minister noted that the Lebanese delegation will present a timetable for withdrawals at the next round of negotiations but will be prepared to discuss any subject raised, Beirut radio reported.

Israeli Reaction -- Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir pointed out that while there is currently no talk of "full peace" between Israel and Lebanon, Israel believes that agreement will be reached on each agenda topic because this would be in the interest of both countries, Jerusalem radio reported. Shamir asserted that the talks were held in a "friendly" atmosphere and denied earlier reports that the Lebanese delegation had threatened to leave the talks, the radio added. Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon praised the agreement as a "real breakthrough," because the agenda contains the "essential" points, another Jerusalem report noted. Sharon told IDF radio that he believes Israel and Lebanon will reach an agreement on both security and normalization, which will "certainly bring peace" in the future.

Al-Jumayyil-Husayn Talk -- President al-Jumayyil telephoned Jordan's King Husayn to brief him on the progress of the negotiations, according to an Amman television report. A delegation from the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies Foreign Relations Committee arrived in Amman earlier in the day to discuss the Lebanese situation with Jordanian officials, Amman and Beirut radios reported.

Tripoli Security -- Steps to restore life to normal in Tripoli have accelerated after internal security forces succeeded in separating combatants in areas of tension, Beirut radio reported. The radio added that a new security force from Beirut was positioned in Tripoli's sensitive areas. Following a meeting of the Northern Coordination Committee, former Prime Minister Rashid Karami affirmed that guarantees are available to establish security and prevent a recurrence of an eruption in the situation, the radio noted.

PLO-Soviet Communique

Talks between PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and Soviet leaders took place in an atmosphere of friendship, cordiality, and mutual understanding, TASS and Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported citing a communique issued following the "official business visit" by a PLO delegation to the USSR 11-13 January. 'Arafat noted that the PLO favors the establishment of "relations of confederation" on a voluntary basis between Jordan and the independent Palestinian state after its creation, the communique stated. The Soviet side showed an "attitude of understanding" toward the PLO leadership's position, the communique added. Analyzing Soviet-Palestinian relations, the two sides expressed satisfaction with their high level of development and pledged to further consolidate friendly cooperation, the communique stressed. The two sides agreed to continue regular contacts, exchanges of views, and coordination of actions at various levels on questions of mutual interest, particularly concerning the Middle East situation and the Palestinian problem, the communique concluded.

Commenting on 'Arafat's visit to the USSR, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio noted its importance, particularly after the heroic steadfastness of the Palestinian revolution in Beirut and Lebanon. The visit is "particularly important" because it follows the election of a new CPSU leadership, the radio stressed.

Israel

Border Incidents -- Dozens of Egyptian attempts to penetrate Israel through the Sinai were recently foiled, Jerusalem radio reported citing a senior IDF officer. "Hundreds" of hand grenades were confiscated from the infiltrators, the radio added. The officer stated the IDF is improving its means of preventing penetrations, the radio noted.

Television Broadcasts -- Israel is installing VHF broadcasting equipment in receiving Israeli television broadcasts in the Jordan Valley, the Tel Aviv paper 'AL HAMISHMAR reported citing Communications Minister Mordekhay Tzipori. The root of the problem appears to be a lack of communications between Israel and Jordan over allocating television channels, the paper added.

Iraq

Iraq and Bulgaria agreed to expand long-range bilateral economic and technical cooperation, according to a statement broadcast by Baghdad radio following the 11-13 January visit by Bulgarian Council of Ministers Chairman Grisha Filipov. The statement added that the Iraqis briefed the Bulgarians on the armed conflict with Iran. The Bulgarian side stressed the need to take swift measures to stop the fighting and resolve disputed issues through negotiations, the statement declared.

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ARAB LEAGUE COMMITTEE TO MEET IN FES 21 JAN

LD132117 Kuwait KUNA in English 1821 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Riyadh, Jan 13 (KUNA) -- Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal said Thursday the Arab League seven-man ministerial committee will meet in Fes, January 21.

Following a meeting with Assistant Secretary General of the Algerian Foreign Ministry Abdel Kader Kassem, Prince Sa'ud said detailed consultations had been carried out between the two countries in that respect.

Discussion also tackled bilateral relations and preparations for the meeting of the joint Saudi-Algerian committee formed following King Fahd of Saudi Arabia visit to Algeria and scheduled to start [words indistinct] session next March.

The Saudi minister also said that consultations were made between the two sides on Arab and international issues, particularly the Palestinian crisis.

Saudi Arabia and Algeria along with Tunisia, Morocco, Jordan, Syria and the PLO are members of the Arab League committee formed by the Fes summit conference last September and assigned to contact the five permanent member states of the U.N. Security Council on the Arab peace plan adopted at the summit.

OFFICIALS DENY COMPROMISE ON DELEGATION TO UK

LD131142 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0940 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Riyadh, 13 Jan (SPA) -- Two Palestinian officials today emphasized the PLO's right to choose its own representative for the Arab seven-man committee delegation which is to visit Britain to explain the Arab peace plan adopted at the Fes summit.

Khalid al-Hasan, member of the Central Council of the Fatah movement and political adviser to the PLO chairman, in an interview with the newspaper AL-MADINAH published today, said that the liberation organization still adheres to its position that it should have its own representative in the delegation. Al-Hasan denied that the organization had mandated Muhammad Milhim, the former mayor of Halhul, to represent it within the Arab delegation.

He underlined that no side has the right to impose a representative on the liberation organization; the organization alone will chose an official to represent it.

Rafiq an-Natshah, representative of the Fatah Palestinian national liberation organization, expressed his appreciation for the Kingdom's position with regard to the representation of the organization within the seven-man committee delegation. In a statement to the papers 'UKAZ and AR-RIYAD he stressed the organization's right to choose its own representative for the Arab seven-man committee, saying that the organization alone has the liberty of choosing its own representative.

In his statement to AR-RIYAD, An-Natshah denied yesterday's news reports from Rabat that the PLO had agreed to a proposed compromise over the seven-man committee delegation's visit to Britain, providing for the substitution of a Palestinian public figure from outside the organization as the latter's representative on the Arab delegation. He said that the PLO rejected this proposal and considered it as overlooking its role as legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

He stressed that the organization rejected any alternative formula for the visit of the seven-man committee to London. He said that it would not have approved of it beforehand, and pointed out that the organization's representative is Faruq Qaddumi, chairman of the PLO Political Department.

An-Natshah also announced that Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, will visit the Kingdom early next week to brief His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz on the latest Palestinian issue developments, the results of his visit to Jordan and the Soviet Union, and to discuss with him the Arab situation in general.

'ARAFAT ON 'MILITARY OPTION,' EUROPEAN STANCE

LD132333 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1700 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] confirmed that the military option is our choice and we will not give up an inch of our land. He said: We are moving politically with our finger on the trigger of the rifle because we are facing many intrigues, from Camp David to the new plans.

This came in an interview given by brother leader Abu 'Ammar to the Kuwaiti AN-NAHDHAH magazine. He pointed out that we adhere to our independent decision, that we will not accept interference in our affairs, and that we will adhere to this decision and defend it with our souls and blood because it stems from the decision by our National Council. We will consolidate this stance during the upcoming meeting of our National Council in Algiers on 14 February.

Brother leader Abu 'Ammar said: I believe that the European countries can play a prominent role in influencing the American decision, but regrettably what we feel at present is that some European states are drawing closer to the American role. I believe that the European states should be independent in their decisions.

'ARAFAT MOSCOW VISIT 'SETBACK' FOR REAGAN PLAN

JN131838 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1600 GMT 13 Jan 83

[News analysis]

[Text] Statements by brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] to Soviet correspondents during his current visit to the USSR have attracted political observers' attention, particularly when he expressed pessimism over achieving a speedy settlement in the Middle East because of the criminal and aggressive Israeli policy and the U.S. refusal to recognize the rights of the Palestinian people.

Brother Abu 'Ammar expressed hope that the resolute and firm international position will be used to find a settlement to the Middle East conflict. Observers see this as a clear indication by brother leader Abu 'Ammar that unilateral U.S. diplomatic attempts to settle the dispute will once again lead the issue to a dead end, that a firm and resolute international stand must be adopted to find a just settlement, and, undoubtedly, that the USSR has an effective role in such a firm and resolute stand. If Israel has an effective role in its alliance with the United States, then the USSR, in terms of the equation of international disputes, can influence not only the United States but also the equation of war and peace in the world as a whole. Political observers perhaps envisage that Brother Abu 'Ammar may be aspiring for such a Soviet role, particularly now the world has seen the Zionists' crimes, which surpass those of the Nazis.

Abu 'Ammar's current visit to the USSR is very important, particularly after the heroic steadfastness of the Palestinian revolution in Beirut and Lebanon, the Arab unanimity on the plan formed at the Fes summit conference, and the several plans submitted to settle the Middle East problem. This visit is particularly important because it follows the election of a new CPSU leadership following the death of Chairman Brezhnev. The Soviet leadership reaffirmed the USSR's firm stand in support of the Palestinian people's just struggle to regain their usurped rights, including their right of self-determination and the establishment of their independent state led by the PLO.

The visit attracted the attention of political and diplomatic Arab and international circles and newspapers. In Washington, U.S. media described Abu 'Ammar's visit to Moscow as a setback, a tragedy, and a pitfall for Reagan's Middle East initiative to a certain extent and will create more difficulties and complications for U.S. diplomats in the region. It is to be noted that Abu 'Ammar's visit to the Soviet capital attracted the attention of the biggest U.S. papers, whose editorials attacked the aims of this visit. Among these papers were THE NEW YORK TIMES and THE WASHINGTON POST. The main television channels -- ABC, NBC, and CBS -- focused on this visit in their newscasts and commentaries, blaming it on the fialure of U.S. diplomacy in the Middle East.

JANA ADDITION TO ITEM ON RESISTANCE CONFERENCE

Tripoli JANA in Arabic at 1437 GMT on 13 January transmits the following service message concerning the item entitled "Palestinian Resistance Conference Opens in Triplli," found on page A 4 of the 13 January Middle East and Africa DAILY REPORT:

"Please add the name Brother Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine."

BRIEFS

PLO ENVOY TO AUSTRIA -- Vienna, Jan 11 (KUNA) -- The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) has nominated Jawad Barakat as PLO representative to Austria to replace 'Abdallah Franji who was accredited as PLO envoy both in Austria and West Germany. Barakat, who is already here to familiarise himself with the working in Austria, will take over his duties after his credentials are officially accepted by the Austrian Government. Franji will then look after the PLO office in Bonn only. [Excerpt] [Kuwait KUNA in English 1740 GMT 11 Jan 83 LD]

SATELLITE STATIONS OFFICIALS MEETING -- The second meeting of officials in charge of operating satellite ground stations in Arab countries began in Riyadh today. Engineer Faysal Zaydan, chairman of the Board of Directors of the Arab Satellite Communications Authority and under secretary at the Ministry of Posts, Telephones, and Telegraph, gave a speech at the outset of the meeting welcoming the participating delegations and lauding the steps the authority has taken. [Excerpt] [Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 10 Dec 82 GF]

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC OIL MINISTERS TO DISCUSS CUTTING PRODUCTION

GF141040 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0950 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 14 Jan (WAKH) -- UAE Petroleum and Natural Resources Minsiter Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah has said that the Arab Gulf countries do not intend to reduce their crude oil prices, and that the UAE is anxious to maintain oil prices at the current level of $34 per barrel.

In a statement to WAM issued today, Al-'Utaybah said that the GCC oil ministers conference scheduled to be held in Manama on 15 January intends to tackle the crisis in the oil market not by reducing prices but by limiting production.

Referring to reports in oil circles that Oman will reduce its oil prices by $2 per barrel in an attempt to market and well its oil, and that Oman has decided to increase its oil productionas of the begninning of 1983 from 320,000 to 360,000 barrels a day, Al-'Utaybah said that during his meeting with the sultan of Oman and with Omani Petroleum and Minerals Minister Sa'id Ahmad ash-Shinfari in the past few days he believed that Oman does not intend to reduce its oil prices.

He said that during their meetings GCC oil ministers will discuss the situation in the oil market in light of the results of the OPEC meeting held in Vienna on 19 December wtihout transgressing against OPEC's competence. He said that the GCC does not discuss issues that concern OPEC but that views are exchanged and new developments that occur between one meeting and another are reviewed. Al-'Utaybah emphasized that there is no conflict between the GCC meetings and the OPEC meetings and that there is a close link between them.

OMAN, PDRY TO RESUME NORMALIZATION TALKS IN UAE

LD081744 Kuwait KUNA in English 1606 GMT 8 Jan 83

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 8 (KUNA) -- The secretary general of the committee on cooperation with the Arab Gulf states, Dr Salim Jabir al-Ahmad, said Saturday that a meeting between Oman and South Yemen will be held in the United Arab Emirates to resume dialogue on all shelved issues between the two Arab countries.

Dr Salim added that the meeting would be a resumption for the dialogue on the subjects agreed on in the agreement reached in Kuwait last October 27 which called for demarcation of borders and normalization of relations.

Answering a question from KUNA, Dr Salim said Kuwait's representative to that meeting sponsored by Kuwait and the UAE had not been decided yet.

The official, however, predicted that the meeting would be represented by the Foreign Ministry undersecretaries of both South Yemen and Oman on the part of the two reconciling neighbouring states.

Dr Salim attended the previous meeting within Kuwait [words indistinct] led by Deputy Premier and Foreign and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad.

Further Report

GF111818 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1420 GMT 11 Jan 83

[Text] Muscat, 11 Jan (WAKH) -- Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, Omani minister of state for foreign affairs, has announced that his country has received an invitation from the UAE to attend a meeting of the technical committee on the border between Oman and the PDRY.

In a statement to the newspaper 'UMAN, the Omani minister said the meeting will be at the level of the two Foreign Ministries under secretaries and that an agreement has been reached on the venue of the meeting without fixing a date.

In his statement, Yusuf al-'Alawi emphasized the need to continue the committee's activities because they are part of implementing the agreement to normalize relations between the two countries.

GCC'S BISHARAH SPEAKS ON GULF, ARAB UNITY

LD131456 Kuwait KUNA in English 1013 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 13 (KUNA) -- The ultimate end of the Gulf Cooperation Council is the unity of the Gulf and there is no room for individual dominance in the GCC, which represents teamwork, secretary general of the GCC was quoted Thursday as saying.

Talking to a forum organized by and published in AL-ANBA' newspaper, 'Abdallah Bisharah summed up the principles of the GCC as the embodiment of the Gulf nationals' aspirations and the dispensing with foreign assistance.

The GCC's philosophy is based on making viable and realistic decisions that can be implemented, he added.

Asked if the GCC has formulated a unified stand on various political questions to be adopted by all members, Bisharah indicated "our experience is still short with regard to coordination. Nevertheless, there is coordination toward major Arab issues in their entirety."

The coordination process between the six GCC members is gradually gaining momentum and emphasis is being placed on the mechanism of coordination to provide for prompt concerted reactions to rapid developments, he explained.

The GCC, which was set up in May 1981, groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Oman.

Responding to a question whether the GCC is a federation of rulers or of (?peoples), the GCC official stressed the popular aspect of the council and reiterated that the basic principles of this regional body found their origin in the interests and aspirations of the Gulf nationals.

"[Words indistinct] Gulf unity, as the GCC main objective, was a step toward total Arab unity or a substitute, Bisharah stressed that the two unities were directly associated.

He made it clear that in recent talks in Tunis with Arab League officials on this subject, those officials voiced support for regional close ties between peoples and stressed that any unity between two Arab countries will positively reflect on the Arab nation.

"Gulf unity is not a fence barring Arab unity, rather it is an (?impulse toward) that end," Bisharah said.

Furthermore, he went on, oil has helped the region develop into a "commonwealth" and subsequently it is in the Arab's interest that Arab Gulf cooperation continues, as such concepts will positively affect Arab policy.

On hardships encountering unity process [as received], he noted that a major difficulty arises from the individualistic trend in the Gulf and that the sacrifices needed to have this unity materialized are not yet fully conceived.

Another difficulty lies in the fact that domestic laws in each member state are "rigid" due to prolonged continuity and that's what makes them hard to adapt to the context of the new GCC laws, he added.

On the internal security pact, which is expected to be concluded between the GCC members, the official said made [as received] it clear that the pact is mainly aimed at coordination of measures to fight crime and [word indistinct] the extradition of criminals.

The pact has no political bearing nor is it aimed at restricting freedoms, he added.

Talking of economic cooperation, Bisharah affirmed that the output of the GCC can not be equally distributed on each individual or institution in the region, and inevitably "there will be sacrifices and victims, not only individuals but institutions as well."

Regretting the eroding away of the huge Gulf wealth, the GCC official warned against over consumption, low rate of production and heavy dependence on Asian labour force.

Asked whether the GCC has prospects for the [word indistinct] problems in the Gulf region, he cautioned that if the foreign influx of foreign labour force into the region kept pace, the political decision of Gulf countries will be affected and hazardous repercussions should be expected.

He, however, was optimistic about the new policies of developing indigenous cadres but stressed that Gulf nation's consumptive trend must be curbed.

KUWAIT

CUBAN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DELEGATION ARRIVES

LD121316 Kuwait KUNA in English 1032 GMT 12 Jan 83

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 1, (KUNA) -- Speaker of the Cuban National Assembly Flavio Bravo said upon arrival here Tuesday night on a four-day official visit that issues of the Non-Aligned Movement will top the agenda of talks with Kuwaiti officials.

Flavio told KUNA at the airport that his visit at the head of a parliamentary delegation comes in response to an invitation from his Kuwaiti counterpart Muhammad Yusuf al-'Adasani.

He reiterated his country's backing to the just struggle of freedom fighters particularly the Palestinian people's resistance against the Israeli aggression.

"We will discuss extending a helping hand to developing countries of the Third World," the Cuban official said and expressed conviction that his visit will bolster relations between the Cuban-Kuwaiti assemblies and peoples.

The guests were received on arrival by Speaker of the National Assembly Muhammad Yusuf al-'Adasani; head of the mission of honor and Chairman of the Parliamentary Legislative and Legal Committee, Deputy 'Isa Majid ash-Shahin; Secretary of the National Assembly 'Abd al-Latif Fahd al-Falij his assistant Muhammad Ibrahim al-Askari; and the Cuban charge d'affaires to Kuwait.

Talks Held

LD121620 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1503 GMT 12 Jan 83

[Text] Kuwait, 12 Jan (KUNA) -- The Kuwaiti and Cuban parliaments have underlined their continued support and backing for the Palestinian cause at international parliamentary gatherings to protect the Palestinians' right to self-determination and the establishment of a homeland on their own territory.

The two sides stressed the development of bilateral relations between the two friendly countries at the parliamentary level as well as the relations that link the State of Kuwait with the Republic of Cuba.

The Kuwaiti and Cuban parliamentary sides today held official talks at the National Assembly. The Kuwaiti side was led by National Assembly Speaker Muhammad Yusuf al-'Adasani and on the Cuban side by the speaker of the National Assembly. It was attended on the Kuwaiti side by members of the assembly's chamber; Chairman of the Legislative and Legal Affairs Committee 'Isa Majid ash-Shahin; Chairman of the Finance and Economic Affairs Committee Jasim Muhammad al-Kharafi; Controller of the Assembly Falah Mubarak al-Hajrar; and Secretary General 'Abd al-Latif al-Falij.

Deputy al-Falij informed KUNA that the Kuwaiti and Cuban parliamentary sides agreed in their talks to strengthen the bilateral relations between the two friendly countries, the means of developing them in the international and parliamentary fields, and coordinating stands at the international parliamentary level.

Deputy al-Falij added that the two sides stressed their support and backing to the Palestinian cause in a way that would fulfill the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and the establishment of a homeland on their usurped territory. He said that the Cuban National Assembly speaker extended an invitation to the speaker, Al-'Adasani, and a delegation from the assembly to visit Cuba.

SAUDI ARABIA

LEBANON'S JUNBLATT DEPARTS FOR JORDAN 13 JAN

LD131155 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0555 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 13 Jan (SPA) -- Leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party Walid Junblatt left Riyadh this morning for Amman after a 4-day visit to the Kingdom, during which he had the honor of being received by His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. He also met with a number of officials.

UK 'PROCRASTINATION' ON ARAB DELEGATION VIEWED

LD122302 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 12 Jan 83

["News and Commentary" by Husayn al-Askari]

[Text] Consultations between a number of Arab capitals and the British Government on the seven-member committee's visit to London are continuing amid conflicting British statements on a new British stance on the inclusion of a PLO representative within the Arab committee.

The policy of procrastination Britain is trying to use in finding a way out of the impasse of its rejection of receiving a PLO representative within the delegation of the Fes summit Arab committee, began to waver between advancement and retraction.

This is what is being reiterated by news sources on the British stand with regard to receiving the seven-member committee, a fact which decreases the likelihood of finding a way for Britain to retreat, with some dignity, from its stance.

There was a great deal of talk about a compromise solution that would lead to the Arab seven-member committee's visit to London. But a statement made yesterday in Tel Aviv by the leader of the ruling Conservative Party delegation, now on a visit to occupied Palestine, cast a shadow of doubt on the seriousness of the British retreat from an unjustified stance. The Conservative Party delegation leader said his country had not retreated from its stance and that his delegation will meet with Arab citizens in Samaria -- using the expression used by Israel when referring to the occupied West Bank.

Such an expression, uttered by an official in the British ruling party, has its dimensions and links with the rigid British stand toward the PLO. Such expression does not come by chance; indeed, it is linked with what an official in London declared yesterday when commenting on reports that the new date for the Arab committee's visit to London will be 7 February. The British official denied his government's knowledge of this, adding there had been no change in its stand. By this he meant the stand of his government toward the visit of a committee including PLO representative.

It is clear that the British Government, in searching for a way out of this impasse, is relying on the policy of dragging matters out in order to absorb Arab indignation, hoping that the passage of time might help to convince the Arabs of the British solution London is trying [word indistinct] the reaching of agreement on it.

THATCHER WARNED AGAINST PROVOKING ARABS

GF131750 Ad-Dammam AL-YAWM in Arabic 12 Jan 83 p 4

[Editorial: "An Unsuccessful Provocation Attempt"]

[Excerpt] Despite the Moroccan confirmation that London submits to the Arab stance, Thatcher insists on carrying out provocative measures in a successful attempt to agitate the Arabs. Mrs Thatcher knows well the implication of attempting to provoke the Arabs. She also knows well the consequences of stubborness at a time when the entire support of her country's economy comes from the Arabs.

How can one intepret the "Thatcher"reaffirmation to Begin and his gang of her support to what is called "the Israeli struggle to achieve security?"

Let the "iron lady" know well that the stance of the Arab states is one and unchangeable and that whatever she attempts in order to provoke them will go with the wind and will bring nothing but an Arab storm against Britain that neither Thatcher nor her Zionist allies can avoid.

Let Thatcher know well that her colonial mentality no longer fits this time, when those whom she hopes to colonize have come into position of power and influence.

The Kingdon's historical refusal to receive the British foreign secretary was the first sign of a strong and decisive stormthat will continue if London continues.

PDRY

COMMUNIQUE ON SUPREME PEOPLE'S COUNCIL SESSION

GF102004 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 10 Jan 83

[Press communique "issued" by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, on the 13th session of the Supreme People's Council held in Aden 9-10 January -- read by announcer]

[Text] The Supreme People's Council held its 13th session from 9 to 10 January.

At the beginning of the session the council observed 1 minute of silence for the victims of the earthquake which struck Dhamar Province in the northern part of the homeland, claiming the lives of thousands of our Yemeni people.

The council heard a political report by the chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council assessing the government's activity in 1982 in political, economic, social, and cultural fields. When the people's representatives discussed the political report, the council highly evaluated the government's activity in implementing the Yemeni Socialist Party's [YSP] policy in various fields.

On reviewing the domestic situation, the council praised the great role played by the masses of our people and local authorities in implementing economic and social programs and plans and in rallying around the national and democratic government -- thus reflecting the unity and link between the leadership and the masses led by the YSP.

Most council members took part in the detailed discussion of the economic and social development plan for the third year of the second 5-year plan and the state's 1983 budget. In addition to these two documents, they reviewed the general economic situation in the country, achievements in various fields, experiences gained, and the difficulties that usually emerge in implementation. During the discussion there was a lively exchange of views between the representatives of the people and experts in the fields of planning, economy, and finance.

The spirit that prevailed during the vital discussions in the council was one of satisfaction with the extent of the development of planning and the financial apparatus, which will greatly contribute toward the supervision of implementation and the assessment of achievements in light of the plan, and create a greater guarantee for planned and constant growth in the economic and social fields.

The council called for increasing the effectiveness of the planning apparatus in the governorates and urged local people's councils to play their role so as to ensure the implementation of projects planned for 1983 and the implementation of other projects.

The council emphasized the importance of strengthening planning in all aspects of economic activity. The council particularly believes that institutions of the public sector must concentrate on effective performance and the precise implementation of their plans and on improving and developing their work methods so as to reduce their expenditures, increase their revenues, and improve their financial position so that they are able to develop their activity.

The council believes that the fisheries and agricultural sectors must make greater efforts to overcome some of the difficulties facing them so as to ensure that these two important sectors implement their programs and their tasks.

On reviewing the 1983 supply program, the council expressed satisfaction with the noticeable improvement in the stability of supply in the PDRY and with the continued subsidy of prices of basic commodities. The council reaffirmed the need for the local people's councils to follow up and oversee the supply program, which should take into consideration consumer patterns and citizens' needs.

In view of the importance of the progress of the implementation of projects in fulfilling the citizens' needs for building materials, the council reaffirmed the need to provide various building materials and making them available to citizens in the various governorates. The council also reaffirmed that basic commodities will continue to be subsidized.

As the council reviewed the report appraising its activities and the activities of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, the standing committees, and the government in 1982 and appraising the 1983 plan of the council and the Presidium, the people's representatives noted the development of parliamentary procedures which continue to increase yearly. They emphasized that the activities of the standing committees constitute an important part of the council's work and the effectiveness of these committees must be increased.

On appraising the situation on the Yemeni scene, the council valued the efforts made to continue strengthening and developing the steps taken by the leaderships of the two parts of Yemen toward achieving Yemeni unity. The council viewed the meeting of the Ministerial Committee of the Yemeni Council as a step toward the real implementation of all the unity agreements, including the historic Aden Agreement. The council confirmed the soundness of the course pursued by the political leadership to make further efforts toward unity and to thwart the plots that always seek to obstruct every step toward unity. The council believes that what has been achieved on the level of the Yemeni homeland, and what can be achieved, has contributed and will continue to contribute toward the area's security and stability and will serve the peace and sovereignty of its peoples.

With regard to the situation in the region, the council expressed its anxiety at the increase in imperialist plots, and positively evaluated the sound and profound analysis of the Arab situation by the YSP Central Committee and the need to confront the threats to which the national liberation movement and Arab peoples are exposed.

With regard to what has happened and is happening in the Middle East, the council reaffirmed that U.S. imperialism has encouraged and supported Israel in its invasion of Lebanon and in the war of extermination waged by the Zionist enemy against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples, the continued Zionist occupation of Lebanese territory, the threatening of Syria, and violation of all international norms and conventions, and that all this is a challenge to the sovereignty and independence of the Arab peoples. The council believes that the key to a solution lies in solving the question of the Palestinian people under the PLO's leadership and in the Palestinian people exercising their rights to self-determination and establishment of an independent state.

On reviewing the international situation, the council highly valued our country's policy and efforts with regard to various international issues and developments. The council discussed the appeal addressed by the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Supreme Soviet to the world's parliaments, governments, political parties, and peoples on peace and reduction in the manufacture and deployment of nuclear weapons, and its call for banning and destroying chemical weapons and limiting strategic arms.

The council highly praised the appeal for peace and its contents, an appeal that clearly and truly demonstrates the peaceful policy of the socialist camp led by the friendly Soviet Union, which is loyal to the struggle for liberation of world peoples and which calls for a policy of peace and detente by reducing the production of nuclear weapons which threaten all of mankind with extinction.

As it concluded its session and approved the plan for the third year of the 5-year plan, the Supreme People's Council called on all the masses of workers in factories, farms, and cooperatives and at all sites of work and production to exert their efforts and to exploit all the available energies and capabilities in implementing all the programs and plans at a high speed and to participate in the production competitions that have been dedicated to the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the 14 October Revolution, to protect public property and the means of production, and to combat all negative phenomena in attitudes toward work.

While it called on all organizations to increase their effectiveness and activities, the council hailed the efforts of unions and the peasants union among the masses. The council also hailed our country's youths, who are preparing to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the foundation of their struggle organization, ASHID, and called on them to make its celebrations a new starting point toward increased academic work and diligence at all sites of work, production, and study.

The council emphasized the need to intensify the efforts of all government bodies to welcome the 20th anniversary of the 14 October Revolution with further successes and constant struggle to achieve the aims and principles of our YSP and the hopes and aspirations of our people for progress and prosperity.

The council ratified a number of laws, decisions, and decrees issued by the Presidium of the Supreme Peoples' Council during the period between the 12th and 13th sessions.

YAR

BRIEFS

SUPREME AGRICULTURAL COUNCIL -- Presidential edict No 11 for 1983 was issued today, ordering the establishment of the Supreme Council for Agriculture and Rural Development. The areas of responsibility of this council are: A) To review ar approve projects under the agricultural development plans; B) to review and approve the work programs of the integrated development projects; C) to review and approve projects concerning agriculture legislation; D) to review and approve the proposed policies dealing with pricing, marketing, loans, and agricultural industrialization, in addition to developing the agricultural associations and handling all issues dealing with agricultural development and integrated rural development; and E) to review the periodical reports on the followup of implementation and adopting the necessary measures in this regard. [San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 10 Jan 83 GF]

PRIME MINISTER MUHYI AD-DIN INTERVIEWED BY MAY

PM131601 Cairo MAY in Arabic 10 Jan 83 p 3

[Interview with Egyptian Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din by Sana' as-Sa'id, presumably in Cairo -- no date given]

[Excerpts] [Question] You have been stressing the role of the United States because of the weight it carries with Israel. Today some people are accusing the United States of failing to bring any pressure to bear on Israel. The United States could have brought about an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon if it wanted. Nor has it put enough pressure on Israel regarding the West Bank on which Israel is expected to be even more intransigent.

Do you still discern a U.S. role in influencing Israel?

[Answer] Our own experience with the United States has been successful and it resulted in complete withdrawal from Sinai.

[Question] Except Tabah.

[Answer] The issue of Tabah is well known and we consider it to be virtually over and done with. It is Egyptian territory and will return to Egypt in accordance with Article 7 of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty.

As regards the U.S. ability to pressure Israel, we must bear in mind the Jewish lobby in the United States and its interaction with the U.S. Administration. This is what really determines who pressures whom. The question of when does one pressure the other depends on certain time calculations based on the U.S. election cycle. Every Arab strategist should take this factor into consideration in order to be able to make decisions that would have an effect on the United States. I maintain that the United States still has a major role to play and that it undoubtedly can be effective on the question of the West Bank and the building of illegal settlements. They are still being built, as stated officially by Israeli Government officials. One might wonder when the United States will make a specific decision imposing effective and practical sanctions on the Israeli side, translating into action the U.S. condemnation of the building of settlements.

[Question] It has been reported that Syria is trying not to withdraw from Lebanon because it wants to organize its affairs there and consolidate its position in the region.

[Answer] We have, from the very beginning, been against Syrian intervention in Lebanon. Egypt's well-known slogan is: Hands off Lebanon. It has been proved that the Syrian forces in Lebanon were not deterrent forces or anything of that kind. They were occupation forces to the point that even returning these forces to Syria is now a problem in itself. The current war in Tripoli is one of the results of the Syrian presence in Lebanon. The real solution to the Lebanese problem lies in the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon and leaving Lebanon to the Lebanese Government. Achieving this requires a strong Lebanese Army capable of enforcing the law justly and applying it to everyone living on Lebanese soil. This is the different formula everyone aspires to.

[Question] On Arab-Egyptian relations, it has been reported that there is coordination between Syria and the Soviet Union to prevent the return of Egypt to the Arab fold.

[Answer] All the steadfastness and confrontation states, including Syria, have been against Egypt's return. Syria is still against Egypt's return to the Arab fold.

During the Fes Arab summit an Arab inclination toward Egypt's return to the Arab ranks appeared at bilateral meetings. Real contacts have already been held and are still being held within this framework and at a good level. There may be some who are against this trend and they may be inspired from abroad. The Soviet Union's relations with certain states is an indication of what you are saying. This is regrettable because it is in the interest of the Arab nation to have solidarity, harmony, and participation in promoting a settlement for the Palestinian question.

[Question] What about Libya and your relations with it? Is there still some kind of threat or sense of threat from it, and could the present calm be described as the calm that precedes the storm, especially since instability in Sudan or Chad could affect Egypt's strategic depth?

[Answer] There is no threat of any kind between Egypt and Libya. There are no disturbances worthy of mention in Sudan and it is difficult to describe Chad today as a factor of instability. What it needs is economic aid to build itself. There is no Libyan threat to Sudan's borders from the west or to Egyptian borders, none whatsoever.

[Question] Could Yuriy Andropov's government be seen as an indication of new Egyptian-Soviet relations?

[Answer] It is difficult to judge Andropov's government and his plans and policies toward the region after such a short time. On our relations with the Soviets, we are endeavoring to confirm and strengthen economic and trade relations. Some success has been achieved in this field and we hope that these relations will grow further in the future.

[Question] But is the Soviet Union still an element of hegemony in the region, as portrayed and projected by the United States early last year when former Secretary of State Haig was touring the area?

[Answer] Our relations with other states are always based on equality and noninterference in the affairs of others. To assess the Soviet Union's policies in recent times we must take into consideration its intervention in Afghanistan and Poland. So there are negative aspects which should be rectified, at world level to begin with. As far as our bilateral relations with the Soviet Union are concerned, we support relations on equal basis. There are relations between us and the Soviets, only without ambassadors.

[Question] When will the ambassadors return?

[Answer] No dates or times have been suggested but we are seriously talking about trade and economic relations which undoubtedly are an extremely important aspect of relations between states. Success has been achieved in this respect and we hope there will be other successes.

[Question] On the surface it now appears that the United States, not the Soviet Union, is the side adopting a deterrent strategy and trying to be actually present in the Middle East. The best proof is its move to set up a new central military force as an alternative to the Rapid Deployment Force.

[Answer] This military strategic attitude applies to the whole world. Every big power has a global strategy which takes all this into consideration. The Soviet Union, and also the United States, have centers throughout the world. Each side has a strategy designed to defend its policies and the policies of its allies in the world. This is not strange. However, this does not change our position based on the principle that there will be no bases on our territory and there will be no pacts with anyone. Ours is a policy of nonalignment and we insist on it.

[Question] But this central military force has revived the possibility of deals between the states of the region and the United States allowing more facilities if not bases. What about Egypt?

[Answer] Our facilities are linked to the Arab and Islamic states which ask for certain facilities under certain circumstances. Our facilities will only be given under such circumstances.

PRESIDENT MUBARAK SENDS CONDOLENCES TO ANDROPOV

NC131202 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1132 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Cairo, 13 Jan (MENA) -- President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has sent a cable of condolences to the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mr Yuriy Andropov on the death of Mr Nikolay Podgornyy. The cable reads as follows:

It is with sorrow that I have received the news of the passing away of Member of the Supreme Soviet Presidium Mr Nikolay Podgornyy and CPSU Politburo Candidate Member Mr Tikhon Kiselev. Please accept our sincerest condolences extended to you and to the Soviet people.

GHALI INTERVIEWED BY SAUDI PAPER AL-YAMAMAH

NC131638 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1506 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Riyadh, 13 Jan (MENA) -- Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has emphasized that the duty of Egyptian diplomacy is to exert more pressure on the U.S. side to secure the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon and to exert more pressure on the European side and the parties concerned to at least set up a timetable for Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon.

In an interview with the Saudi magazine AL-YAMAMAH today, Dr Ghali says that if the United States can secure the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon in the next few months, this would give the Arabs and all parties concerned confidence in the importance of the presence of the U.S. side to move the Middle East question.

Dr Ghali explains that the purpose of exerting pressure is to make American public opinion realize that in the interests of all sides it is necessary to speed up a durable and just settlement of the issue, because the continuation of the conflict constitutes a source of world tension and an enormous danger to world peace.

As to whether the United States intends to exert pressure on Israel at a time when it is increasing its economic and military aid to Israel and when Israel rejects U.S. President Reagan's initiative, Dr Ghali asserts in his interview with AL-YAMAMAH that the U.S. intention depends on the Arabs' ability to convince the United States that it is necessary to act without delay so as to achieve a just and comprehensive settlement of the Palestinian question. In this regard he refers to the stand of the government of late U.S. President Eisenhower when it exerted pressure on Israel in 1956 which led to withdrawal from Sinai.

Dr Ghali says that what Eisenhower did, President Reagan could repeat this year with the same success vis-a-vis Lebanon, the West Bank and Gaza sector.

Ghali expresses his hope that the Palestinian side will move along the path of recognizing Security Council Resolution 242 or of recognizing Israel.

Ghali says: If this happens, the U.S. side will contact the Palestinian side officially. This would result in exerting pressure on Israel and consequently in the start of the peace process through holding negotiations among all the parties concerned -- Egypt, Jordan, the Palestinians, and the United States.

The minister of state for foreign affairs opposes the view that Palestinian recognition of Israel is the last card in the PLO's hand. He says that the PLO derives its strength from the justice of the cause it defends and from the conviction of public opinion that there can be no peace in the area if the Palestinians do not attain their legitimate rights. He affirms that the diplomatic action is continuing and that its end cannot be determined.

Dr Ghali wonders how the U.S. side could act if there is an Arab rejection and an Israeli rejection. He says that all parties must support this action so that the United States may begin to exercise its role.

PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY DEBATES PRESS ATTACK ON TALIB

NC131610 Cairo MENA in English 1458 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Cairo, Jan 13 (MENA) -- The People's Assembly held a debate today on an opposition newspaper attack on the speaker of the house, Dr. Sufi Abu Talib.

The speaker left his seat to his deputy, Sayyid Zaki during the debate in accordance with parliamentary rules.

The case was raised in a query by Deputy Ibrahim Shukri, leader of the opposition Socialist Party.

The case involved an action of Dr. Abu Talib when he was president of Cairo University. Abu Talib ruled then for the transfer of Dr. Muhammad Salih, professor at the faculty of engineering, Cairo University, who had lashed at the way Jamal as-Sadat, son of the late President Anwar as-Sadat and a student at the faculty, was passed in violation of normal procedure. [passage indistinct]

The attack on the speaker was printed by "AL-AHALI" newspaper, organ of the Unionist Progressive Party on December 29.

Shukri opened the debate by saying that the press attack should have been answered by Cairo University or the minister of education. This should have been done, he added, as the court had ruled that Dr. Salih should be reinstated as professor in his previous post.

Four deputies of the ruling National Democratic Party argued that the order given finally by the minister of education to transfer Dr. Salih was proper, as the transfer had been recommended by the relevant department of the faculty of engineering, and the recommendation was subsequently [word indistinct] by the faculty's council, then the university council, and was finally endorsed by the minister of education.

ASSEMBLY TOLD FOREIGN DEBT TOTALS 13 BILLION

NC112016 Cairo MENA in English 1800 GMT 11 Jan 83

[Text] Cairo, Jan 11 (MENA) -- Egypt's foreign civil debts total 13 billion Egyptian pounds (about same dollars), Minister of Planning Dr. Kamal al-Janzuri told the People's Assembly today.

At the end of the five-year economic and social development plan in 1987, he said, the figure will stand at 16.2 billion pounds. The minister made this statement in answer to comments by deputies on the draft five-year plan.

SADDAM HUSAYN RECEIVES BULGARIA'S FILIPOV

JN121922 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1855 GMT 12 Jan 83

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Jan (INA) — President Saddam Husayn received this evening Grisha Filipov, chairman of the Council of Ministers in Bulgaria.

The two sides discussed the friendship and cooperation which exist between Iraq and Bulgaria and the prospects of their future development. They also reviewed the Arab and international situation, the Iraq - Iran war, and the forces which are working for its prolongation.

Filipov conveyed to President Saddam Husayn greetings from Todor Zhivkov, Bulgaria's State Council chairman, and his wishes of prosperity and development for the Iraqi people.

The meeting, which lasted approximately 2 hours, was attended by Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and first deputy prime minister; 'Abd al-Mun'im Rashid, head of the president's office and acting RCC secretary; the Iraqi ambassador in Sofia; and the Bulgarian ambassador in Baghdad.

Meets With Ramadan

JN131544 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1440 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Jan (INA) -- Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, today met with Grisha Filipov, chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers. During the meeting, Ramadan affirmed to Filipov the importance of developing bilateral relations and working diligently to confront the imperialist and Zionist conspiracies and designs aimed at dominating and influencing peoples' fates, sovereignty, and independence.

The Bulgarian official expressed his pleasure at meeting with President Saddam Husayn and at the important and frank discussion which embodies the mutual trust and joint feeling for the importance of promoting and developing the ties of friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

Grisha Filipov also expressed satisfaction with the mutual understanding which prevailed in the meetings of the committees and which interpret the desire of the officials of the two countries to develop and strengthen the cooperative relations in the various fields. It was announced here that the follow-up meetings of the joint committees which have reached positive and good results in service of the interests of the two friendly peoples were completed.

The meeting was attended by Bulgarian Foreign Minister Khristo Iliev Khristov and the Iraqi and Bulgarian ambassadors in Sofia and Baghdad.

Minutes of Agreements Signed

JN132128 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1820 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Jan (INA) -- Iraq and Bulgaria tonight signed minutes of an agreement for long-range economic cooperation between the two friendly countries. Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and first deputy prime minister, signed the minutes for Iraq while Grisha Filipov, chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers, signed for Bulgaria.

Both sides also signed other minutes of an agreement to expand economic, scientific, technical cooperation, and trade exchange between the two countries. Siddiq 'Abd al-Latif Yunis, agriculture and agrarian reform minister, signed for the Iraqi side, and Khristo Iliev Khristov, foreign trade minister, signed for the Bulgarian side.

On this occasion, Taha Yasin Ramadan delivered a speech expressing his thanks to Grisha Filipov and his accompanying delegation for their visit to Iraq and hailing the good and honest spirit which prevailed during the talks between the Iraqi and Bulgarian sides. He stressed that the visit of the friendly Bulgarian delegation to Iraq came to further strengthen relations and to expand the aspects of cooperation between them in the service of the two friendly peoples.

Ramadan also expressed his high appraisal of the concrete and direct results of the Bulgarian delegation's visit and its effect on future cooperation between the two countires. Moreover, he expressed his thanks for Filipov's invitation to visit Bulgaria, stressing that this invitation embodies the sincere desire to continue the joint efforts and develop relations between Iraq and Bulgaria.

In a reply speech on the occasion, Grisha Filipov expressed his thanks to President Saddam Husayn and the first deputy prime minister for the warm hospitality accorded him and his delegation during their visit to Iraq. He said the results of the talks and the signing of the two minutes were a sincere expression of the continuation of friendship and cooperation between our two friendly countries to achieve their common objectives and interests in the service of world peace. He added that the spirit of mutual friendship and confidence that prevailed during the talks was successful and opened wide prospects for work and the increase of cooperation between the two friendly countries.

The signing ceremony was attended by Hasan 'Ali al-'Amiri, RCC member and minister of trade; 'Abd al-Malik al-Yasin, Foreign Ministry under secretary; 'Abd at-Tawwab Mulla Huwaysh, Industry and Minerals Ministry under secretary; Sabah Kujaji, Light Industries Ministry under secretary; members of the two delegations, and the chief of protocol of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Iraqi-Bulgarian Statement

JN132110 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1911 GMT 13 Jan 83

["Text" of Iraqi-Bulgarian statement issued on 13 January 1983 on the visit to Iraq of Grisha Filipov, chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers]

[Text] 1. At the invitation of the Iraqi Government, Grisha Filipov, chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers, paid an official and friendly visit to Iraq from 11 to 13 January 1983.

2. The distinguished guest was received by Saddam Husayn, chairman of the Revolution Command Council [RCC] and president of the republic, during which he conveyed an oral message from Todor Zhivkov, chairman of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

3. Grisha Filipov, chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers, and Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, held talks in an atmosphere in which friendship and mutual understanding prevailed.

4. During the talks, the two sides reviewed the accomplishments that Iraq and Bulgaria have achieved. They also reviewed the development in bilateral relations and means to promote these relations in the interest of the two friendly peoples on bases of amicability, mutual understanding, and benefit. They discussed specific current international issues of mutual concern.

5. The two sides noted with satisfaction that the relations between the Iraqi Republic and the People's Republic of Bulgaria are developing successfully, governed by the spirit of the agreements reached between Saddam Husayn, president of the republic, and Todor Zhivkov, chairman of the State Council in the People's Republic of Bulgaria, during their meeting in Baghdad in 1980.

The two sides reaffirmed their resolve to exert further efforts to concert and deepen Iraqi-Bulgarian relations in various spheres.

6. The two sides pointed out that the present level of the bilateral relations has created significant possibilities to enrich their cooperation, with new elements and more effective concepts toward achieving more dynamic progress in this cooperation on a long-range basis that would benefit the Iraqi and Bulgarian peoples.

During the visit, the Iraqi-Bulgarian joint committee for economic, scientific, and technical cooperation held an extraordinary session during which it discussed means to promote and elevate economic and technical cooperation between the two countries. The committee made positive results in the various spheres. Within this context, the two sides signed the minutes for expanding the economic and technical cooperation and the exchange of trade between the Iraqi Republic and the People's Republic of Bulgaria. The two sides also signed the minutes on another agreement stipulating the general principles of the long-range economic cooperation between the two countries.

7. While reviewing current international issues, Taha Yasin Ramadan and Grisha Filipov expressed their utmost apprehension of the grave deterioration in the international situation that has been caused by the imperialist forces which are stepping up the arms race, working against the international detente, perpetrating tension on the international level, and preparing to produce and proliferate new weapons of mass destruction.

8. The two sides affirmed their conviction that mankind's principal objectives are to avoid a nuclear catastrophe, end the arms race, take effective measures to achieve disarmament, particularly in the field of nuclear weapons and other mass destruction methods, and to preserve international detente [words indistinct].

10. The Iraqi side briefed the Bulgarian side on developments in the armed conflict with Iran and Iraq's position on this conflict. The Bulgarian side expressed apprehension over the continued fighting between the two neighboring countries, stressing the need to take swift measures to halt the fighting and solve the disputed issues throught negotiations.

11. The two sides discussed the explosive situation in the Middle East and strongly condemned the Israeli aggression against Lebanon, which was supported by the United States, and Israel's genocide policy aimed at fragmenting the independent state of Lebanon and liquidating the Palestinian resistance movement.

The two sides expressed their solidarity and support for the heroic struggle of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian Arab people. The two sides call for the immediate, complete, and unconditional withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon and for the preservation of Lebanon's territorial integrity, independence, and the unity of its territory.

12. The two sides noted that the current tension in the Middle East is a result of Israel's policy of expansion and aggression through the occupation of Arab land. The two sides affirmed that a just and permanent peace cannot be achieved except through the withdrawal of Israeli forces from all occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem, and the attainment of the national inalienable rights of the Palestinian Arab people, including their right of self-determination and the establishment of their independent state on their land.

13. The two sides condemned the concentrated imperialist military activity in the Indian Ocean region. The two sides welcomed the UN resolution calling for convening an international conference to make the Indian Ocean a region of security and peace and adopting effective measures to implement this as soon as possible.

14. The two sides exchanged views on the situation in Europe. They affirmed the utmost importance of reaching an urgent agreement on nuclear arms limitation in Europe. They also stressed the need to reduce the size of the armed forces and armament in central Europe to consolidate security and peace on the continent and the world. The two sides expressed the view that this agreement cannot be achieved except through the attainment of justice and security for countries on an equal basis.

15. The two sides expressed concern over attempts to thwart the Madrid conference. They emphasized the importance of making the meeting succeed by adopting an objective and balanced document to consolidate the initiative of the Helsinki conference, and stressed the need for building trust and security and achieving disarmament in Europe.

16. The two sides highly praised the role of the Nonaligned Movement's countries as an important element in the struggle to safeguard world peace and security. The two sides wished the movement's seventh summit conference, which will convene shortly, success in its tasks.

17. The two sides reaffirmed their determination to support all nations and movements struggling for national independence and social progress against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, racism, and Zionism in Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

18. The two sides voiced their support for the issue of making the role of the United Nations more effective in international peace and security based on strict adherence to the aims and principles of its charter by all countries.

19. The two sides expressed satisfaction with the results of the chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers Grisha Filipov's official visit to Iraq expressing the conviction that this visit will further promote the useful and fruitful relations of friendship and cooperation in all fields to serve peace, security, and social progress worldwide.

20. Chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers Grisha Filipov expressed deep gratitude for the hospitality and honor he received in Iraq. He invited Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, to visit Bulgaria. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

Filipov Departs 13 Jan

JN132026 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Excerpts] Grisha Filipov, chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers, and his delegation left Baghdad for home this evening. He was seen off at the airport by Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and first deputy prime minister; Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister; several ministers, and the ambassadors of the two countries.

'ARAFAT ARRIVES IN BAGHDAD FOR VISIT 13 JAN

JN140818 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0800 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Baghdad last night on a visit to Iraq. He was received at the airport by Na'im Haddad, member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command; the Foreign Ministry's chief of protocol; and several other officials.

COMMUNIQUE UPDATES IRANIAN LOSSES 12-13 JAN

JN131712 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Communique No 964 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 13 January 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our armed forces continued their brave and daring operations in the operational sectors against the spiteful Iranian enemy. The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. Our forward units in the central operational sector pounded an enemy concentration, killing 11, wounding others, and destroying 1 hardware stockpile and 3 observation posts.

2. One of our forward units attacked an enemy patrol which attempted to approach our positions in the Maysan operational sector, killing three, and capturing two others. Three enemy soldiers were also killed in front of our positions in the same sector.

3. Using artillery, the criminal Khomeyniite clique today shelled Basra, Mandali, and Khanaqin, causing some damage to a number of houses in Mandali.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 13 January 1983

LEBANESE PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION ARRIVES 13 JAN

JN131247 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Dr Amin al-Hafiz, chairman of the foreign relations committee in the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies, arrived in Amman today leading a parliamentary delegation on a 2-day visit to Jordan during which he will meet with His Majesty King Husayn and senior officials to brief them on the latest developments in Lebanon.

In a statement to the PETRA-JNA correspondent, Al-Hafiz said: We are pleased to begin our tour of Arab states with the Jordanian capital. We harbor fraternal sentiments toward the Jordanian king and people and pin great hopes on Jordan, which will confront the dangers threatening the destiny of all of us. The delegation has been entrusted by President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil with briefing Arab heads of states and officials on the current Lebanese situation and developments in tackling Lebanon's many troubles which have been afflicting the country for years and which climaxed with the tragic Israeli occupation. This requires us to exert real efforts to regain our sovereignty, which will enable us to solve our internal problems.

Al-Hafiz added: We have reached our current state of affairs as a result of the region's troubles. It is true that getting rid of the occupation and regaining our sovereignty is a Lebanese duty, but it is also an Arab responsibility and a result of the Middle East problem. If we could not cooperate with our Arab brothers to ward off the danger before it intensified, then it is necessary to receive the necessary practical Arab support to get rid of our serious ailments. Al-Hafiz also said the delegation will present the Lebanese issues before His Majesty King Husayn, who has spared no effort in supporting Lebanon. He pointed out that the Lebanese people are aware of his majesty's sympathy with their plight and that he considers it Jordan's plight also.

The delegation includes Deputies Mikha'il az-Zahir, Hamid Dakrub, Michel Ma'luli, and Butrus Harb. It was reported by Sulayman 'Arar, speaker of the National Consultative Council, a number of chairman of the council's committees, and the Lebanese ambassador in Amman.

Meeting With Husayn

JN131852 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] This evening at the Royal Hashemite Court, His Majesty King Husayn received the Lebanese parliamentary delegation under Dr Amin al-Hafiz, chairman of the foreign relations committee of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies. Al-Hafiz forwarded a message to his majesty the king from His Excellency Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil dealing with developments in Lebanese events and with the progress of the negotiations pertinent to the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon. The message also dealt with means to consolidate and promote relations between the two fraternal countries.

His Majesty King Husayn affirmed to the Lebanese parliamentary delegation Jordan's support and backing for the Lebanese people in defending their independence and territorial integrity and in spreading Lebanese authority throughout Lebanon's soil. His majesty added that he is confident that the fraternal Lebanese people are capable of overcoming the ordeal and of building the independent and prosperous Lebanon.

The meeting was attended by chief of the Royal Court Ahmad al-Lawzi, National Consultative Council Speaker Sulayman 'Arar, and the Lebanese ambassador in Amman.

LEBANON'S AL-JUMAYYIL PHONES HUSAYN 13 JAN

JN131824 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] His Excellency Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil held a telephone conversation with His Majesty King Husayn this evening during which he briefed his majesty on the progress of negotiations being held between the Lebanese Government and Israel to ensure the withdrawal of the Israeli occupation troops from Lebanon.

President al-Jumayyil affirmed Lebanon's adherence to its national unity as well as its resoluteness in guaranteeing its sovereignty over its national soil and in coopperating with the Arab nation out of its faith in Arab solidarity. President al-Jumayyil expressed his thanks and appreciation for his majesty's efforts in explaining the dimensions of the Israeli aggression against Lebanon and his work to end the occupation so that Lebanon can regain security and stability.

His Majesty King Husayn affirmed Jordan's support for national Lebanon and for the diligent and proper efforts being exerted by his excellency the Lebanese president to guarantee Israel's withdrawal. His majesty expressed confidence in Lebanon's ability to emerge from its current ordeal.

AD-DUSTUR: JUNBLATT ARRIVES IN AMMAN 13 JAN

JN140828 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 14 Jan 83 p 18

[Text] Amman (AD-DUSTUR) -- Walid Junblatt, leader of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement, arrived in Amman yesterday for a visit of several days.

Junblatt's family has been residing in Amman for a long time.

AD-DUSTUR ON PROGRESS OF LEBANESE-ISRAELI TALKS

JN140843 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 14 Jan 83

[From the Press Review]

[Text] Under the headline "Fruits of U.S. Mediation in Lebanon Negotiations," AD-DUSTUR says: The results reached through U.S. mediation in the current negotiations between Lebanon and Israel as announced after the meetings of the negotiators in Qiryat Shemona yesterday should not surprise anyone. Although it disagrees with Israel on the question of imposing conditions of complete normalization on Lebanon out of a desire not to isolate Lebanon in the Arab world, the United States is not against ending the state of war between Lebanon and Israel on the pretext that its principled stand is to achieve peace and end the state of war between Israel and neighboring Arab states if suitable conditions and circumstances are made available, such as those now existing between Lebanon and Israel.

AD-DUSTUR adds: If all dimensions of the Israeli stand are now known and can be summed up in Israel's desire to translate its military victory in Lebanon into a comprehensive political victory for Menahem Begin's government, the Lebanese stand is, very regrettably, not strong enough to resist Israeli pressure because of its weak points. Some of these are due to Arab inaction, the weak military structure of the Lebanese Army, and the political and sectarian divisions afflicting the internal Lebanese arena. Therefore, the Lebanese negotiator has no choice but to depend on the support of the U.S. negotiator, support governed by the limits of the U.S. concept of how future peace relations should exist between Israel and all its Arab neighbors.

The paper says: It has been said that the inclusion of the subject of ending the state of war in the agenda does not require advance approval by either side during the negotiation process. But this propaganda gambit cannot conceal the truth: that, since Lebanon has tacitly agreed to abrogation of the armistice agreement and to discussion of the subject of ending the state of war, the least that Israel will expect is for Lebanon to agree to end the state of war between the two countries with all the resulting conditions and obligations, which will have a far-reaching effect on Lebanon's behavior with regard to its relations with Israel and the Arab states.

It may not be fair to blame Lebanon since the Arabs themselves have put it in circumstances whereby it cannot reject Israel's wish and U.S. desire. What is happening in Khaldah and Qiryat Shemona is, in the final analysis, another step along the path of Arab retreat before the Israeli onslaught which began with As-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem.

JORDAN TIMES COMMENTS ON U.S. FACTFINDING VISIT

JN080850 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 8 Jan 83 p 4

[Editorial: "Black and White Dilemma"]

[Text] Ideology never works in politics. President Reagan and his administration tried it in the dispute over the Siberian gas pipeline, but it never worked; the episode even hurt the U.S. and its allies more than it did their adversaries, the Soviets. That is why Washington, in its current efforts to find a comprehensive Middle East settlement, has to continue ignoring fundamental Palestinian rights to independence and statehood in favour of Arab and Palestinian recognition of Israel's right to exist as the only viable option for bringing political stability to this troubled region.

This seems to be the essence of current American thinking on the Palestinian question, as outlined to Jordanian journalists by U.S. Senator Paul Tsongas during his short visit to Jordan on Wednesday and Thursday. The senator, who does not necessarily represent the Reagan administration views on the problem, has since left us for Israel to continue a fact-finding mission to a number of Middle East countries, but his words raise the subject of what Arabs ought to do under the present circumstances.

Are we Arabs tuned to the American wavelength, even though it is difficult for us to accept the cruelty of politics when it comes to compromising our basic rights? Can we afford to believe that our "ideological" position has to be modified in order to meet Israel's "historical" claims to our territories on American "pragmatic" grounds? Well, and for well-known reasons, we have expressed willingness to talk, among ourselves, with the Americans and even the Israelis about the answers. But, it seems, nobody -- especially the U.S. -- wants to hear anything less than black and white answers from us.

The problem now lies not in that we cannot take clear-cut decisions at this stage and sell them in black or white, but in being unsure about the results, especially in view of an adamant Israeli rejection of all reasonable resolutions. It is not at all a question of ideology, like the Americans want us to make believe. If we are indeed indecisive, the U.S. need not look far to find the reason: Israel is at arm's length from the White House in Washington.

AR-RA'Y PRAISES USSR STAND ON JORDANIAN-PLO TIES

JN140746 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 14 Jan 83

[From the Press Review]

[Text] Under the headline "A Positive Soviet Stand," AR-RA'Y says: The statement made by Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat following his talks with Soviet leaders in Moscow has a clear meaning. The statement comes as announcement of the positive Soviet stand toward the Jordanian-Palestinian march. This stand is bound to remove our march from the framework of the political conflict between the two superpowers. It is no secret that the removal of the march from this framework is a definite gain for it, a confirmation of its independent identity, and an important factor which provides it with the right atmosphere to forge ahead.

In light of this outcome, Israel becomes the only foreign side which opposes, casts doubt on, and conspires against the Jordanian-Palestinian march and launches biased campaigns against Jordan and the PLO. If Israel has an obvious interest in condemning the march, it is definite that no other Arab side shares such an interest. Therefore, nobody would imagine any Arab side joining the hostile Israeli camp against the Jordanian-Palestinian march.

AR-RA'Y says: By its positive stand, the USSR has shown farsightedness and understanding of the reality of this march, which does not represent a bloc aimed at anyone and concerns only the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples.

AR-RA'Y concludes: Needless to say, this stand is, in itself, an encouraging contribution to Arab efforts to regain usurped Arab rights and achieve just and comprehensive peace in the region. This stand should prompt the U.S. Administration to adopt a positive stand by putting a limit to the Israeli aggressors' policy of building settlements and persecuting our steadfast kinfolk in the occupied territory. Such a stand will also enhance the prospects of regaining usurped Arab rights and help open the doors to the desired peace. At any rate, the constructive Soviet stand on the Jordanian-Palestinian march deserves praise.

HUSAYN INVITED TO DELHI NONALIGNED MEETING

JN121838 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 12 Jan 83

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn has received an invitation from Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi to attend the Seventh Nonaligned Movement Summit Conference scheduled to be held in New Delhi in March.

Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim received in his office this evening the Indian ambassador in Amman, who gave him a message containing the invitation.

QIRYAT SHEMONA TALKS END; KHALDAH MEETING SET

NC131411 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1350 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Dispatch by the Lebanese Information Ministry delegation from Qiryat Shemona -- in Arabic, French, and English; processed from Arabic--live]

[Text] The Information Ministry delegation speaks to you again from Qiryat Shemona. Consultations have now ended in Qiryat Shemona and the military spokesman released the following statement: Progress was made in our negotiations today when we reached an agenda for the talks. The talks, devoted to one of the items of the agenda, that is, ending the state of war, began today. We discussed ways of continuing the negotiations and discussed all the items on the agenda. The next meeting will be held in Khaldah on Monday.

President, Team Review Talks

NC131909 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil at 1930 today held a meeting with the political operations room attended by Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan, Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim, Ghassan Tuwayni and Dr Wadi' Haddad as well as the members of the Lebanese negotiating team. The negotiating team reviewed to the conferees the results of the sixth round of talks held in Qiryat Shemona today and the stances and ideas discussed at the negotiating table.

AL-WAZZAN SAYS LEBANON NOT BOUND TO AGENDA

NC132020 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has affirmed that Leganon's stand is steadfast regarding the negotiations with Israel. He said that Lebanon declared this stand since the beginning of the negotiations, defining it by its right to sovereignty over its territory and the necessity of withdrawal of the occupation forces from this territory. He said that Lebanon rejects committing itself to anything it does not want in the agenda of negotiations. He said that the issue of withdrawal can absolutely not be subjected to bargaining and that Lebanon's agreement to the agenda today does not mean it accepts it or that Lebanon is committed to its items. Al-Wazzan was speaking following the meeting that was chaired by President al-Jumayyil at 1930 today and ended at 2030. The meeting was attended by Prime Minister al-Wazzan, Foreign Minister Salim, Ambassador Tuwayni and Dr Haddad as well as by members of the Lebanese negotiating team, which reviewed for the conferees the atmosphere that prevailed in the sixth round of talks in Qiryat Shemona today and the stances submitted during this round.

Further on Al-Wazzan Remarks

NC132242 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Excerpts] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil this evening chaired a meeting of the political operations room on the issue of the negotiations.

The meeting, which began at 1930 and continued until a late hour, was designed to assess the results of the negotiations in light of the agreement which was reached today at the sixth round of the negotiations held in Qiryat Shemona and to prepare for the next stages of the tripartite negotiations.

During the meeting a review was made of the nature of what took place in today's Qiryat Shemona talks. It has been learned that the Lebanese delegation demanded, after the question of the agenda was resolved, that subcommittees be formed to discuss all the subjects on the agenda. The Israeli side, on the other hand, demanded that a general review be made. This review was made, and it was decided to discuss the formation of the subcommittees at the next meeting in Khaldah.

During the talks, the Israeli side also dealt with the issue of the end of the state of war. The Lebanese side explained that Lebanon does not consider that there is a state of war between it and Israel, affirming that a state of war existed before 1949 -- that is, before the signing of the armistice agreement, which provided in its first article for the termination of the state of war.

It has been learned that the Lebanese delegation will carry a timetable for the withdrawals to the seventh round. It will be prepared to discuss any subject raised, and its position will be clear and frank.

The text of the statement which Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan made this evening reads as follows:

Actually what was accomplished today was satisfactory to us as Lebanese, because it puts us at the limit we set for ourselves, which is not to be drawn into any discussion that will commit us to what Israel is demanding in advance.

The prime minister said: During the negotiations there was much give and take. An idea was raised to open all topics for discussion and that the agenda include all subjects without commitment by the Lebanese side to what is raised. This idea developed, and the U.S. side took up this idea and crystallized it in a specific manner. Several amendments were made and much hard work was done until an agenda was crystallized called a composite agenda -- that is to say that this agenda contains subjects raised by the Lebanese side and subjects raised by the Israeli side.

He said: Had we accepted these subjects like that, we would have committed Lebanon to the need to discuss the principles at least. But Lebanon rejected that and expressed reservations. He said: I will not discuss these subjects unless it is understood that I am not bound by them in advance -- this means that the inclusion of these subjects on the agenda does not mean that I accept them. Consequently, remarks were registered in the agenda defining Lebanon's position. This position, of course, covered all the parties. The remarks say that all the parties agreed to deal with these subjects with open-mindedness, without prior commitment to the outcome of the negotiations. This means that the inclusion of these subjects on the agenda does not commit Lebanon to them from the standpoint of principle or from the standpoint of the outcome of the negotiations.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan added: Therefore, I can say that by its steadfast stand -- the stand of the negotiating delegation which continues to reject the Israeli demands -- Lebanon reached the limits it set for itself, which is not to be drawn into making commitments to any Israeli demand at the beginning of this discussion.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan was asked: Mr Prime Minister, the agenda contains many points. It was said in this agenda that these points are interlinked. What is, in your opinion, the most important point in the agenda and what will be the results?

He replied: The importance is relative. For us in Lebanon, there is nothing more important to us than the issue of the total withdrawal without conditions. This is one of Lebanon's rights.

We attach utmost importance to this point. The question of possible guarantees, which is also on the agenda, could also benefit us, because we are the ones aggressed against.

Israel has aggressed against Lebanon several times. Instead of Israel asking us to give it security arrangements to protect the Galilee and the safety of Galilee, I think that every rational person assumes that it is Lebanon that should ask for guarantees from Israel following its repeated aggressions against Lebanon. The guarantees, among others, interest us.

MEETING ON FUTURE MULTINATIONAL FORCE'S TASKS

NC131713 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil at noon today chaired a meeting of the Higher Liaison Committee in the presence of the ambassadors of the countries participating in the multinational force and a group of Lebanese and UN officers. The meeting dealt with the security situation in the mountain and the north and issues pertinent to the future tasks of the multinational force.

EFFORTS IN TRIPOLI TO ENSURE STABILITY

NC131753 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] The slow but steady steps that have been taken to restore life to normal in Tripoli accelerated today after the internal security forces, deployed in fixed posts in the sensitive areas succeeded in separating combatants in the following areas of tension: Al-Baqqar, Al-Qubbah, Ash-Sha'rani, Al-Amrikan, Al-Malluli, At-Tall, and An-Nasir Mosque.

Today's efforts concentrated on two points that will secure better opportunities to stabilize quiet and security: First, strengthening the security forces which have been entrusted with the task of maintaining security in all quarters of the city, including areas of tension such as Ba'l Muhsin, At-Tabbanah, and Al-Qubbah. For this purpose, a new security force left Beirut for Tripoli today to reinforce the additional force of two platoons sent yesterday, with armored vehicles. This force has taken positions in sensitive areas, while patrols continued to police other quarters of the city. It has been learned that the car of the commander of the gendarmerie platoon in the north, which was seized by armed men, has been returned.

Second, removing war manifestations including sand barricades and armed positions. Civil defense bulldozers and workshops of the Tripoli municipality began this job at Ba'l Muhsin and is to be followed in the At-Tabbanah area and certain quarters of Al-Qubbah.

At noon today, [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami chaired a meeting of the coordination committee of the north in the presence of Governor Iskandar Ghibril and the north gendermarie company commander Lieutenant Colonel Mahdi al-Haj Hasan. The discussions focused on following up the implementation of resolutions to remove the barricades. Following the meeting Karami made a statement in which he said: I want to affirm to everyone that the program is being implemented. Everyone can see that all parties are working to implement the plan. I want to affirm to everyone that guarantees are available to establish security and to prevent a recurrence of an eruption in the situation. He added: We are urging the committees that have been set up to begin their work on all levels and to extend fraternal and generous hands to all those whose property was damaged in the recent events.

MAJOR HADDAD SPEAKS IN METULLA 13 JANUARY

NC140810 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0600 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Report on speech by "free Lebanon commander" Major Sa'd Haddad at a New Year celebration held in the Israeli town of Metulla on 13 January -- read by announcer]

[Text] Major Haddad said: I had hoped that the past year would be a year of liberation and salvation. It became so with the help of God, the assistance of the State of Israel, and the heroism and sacrifice of the heroic Israeli forces.

After calling on the fraternal and unified sons of free Lebanon to enroll in the ranks of the unified and fraternal free Lebanese army, Major Haddad said: This army will be a good tool for defending the homeland. If the need arises and the Syrians and swindlers [Palestinians] do not leave Lebanon, it will be compelled to continue the march of Liberation up to An-Nahr al-Kabir [river on the northernmost part of Lebanon]. He said: Who else but the sons of free Lebanon have more right to defend their land, homeland, and values?

Major Haddad reiterated his hope that the sons of Ash-Shuf, which is a dear part of the homeland, will discard their differences and will return to their genuine ideals and values for the sake of the homeland and the future of the rising generations so that they will once again become an asset and a hope for the homeland.

SIDON SURVEY OFFICES REPORTEDLY BROKEN INTO

NC131238 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] The director and employees of the land survey department in Sidon this morning were surprised to find that their offices had been broken into. They discovered that unknown persons had tampered with the files in the cabinets but that nothing was

It is worth noting that the land survey offices are located in the western wing of the southern governorate building and that the Israeli forces are occupying the remaining sections.

QULAYLAT, DELEGATION RETURN FROM ALGERIA

NC131805 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Ibrahim Oulaylat [leader of the Independent Nasirite Movement Al-Murabitun] and the delegation accompanying him returned to Beirut this afternoon after an official visit to Algeria.

CITIZENS REPORTEDLY FORCED TO DEMONSTRATE IN BA'LABAKK

NC111248 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1145 GMT 11 Jan 83

[Text] In Ba'labakk, special Syrian units today forced the area's inhabitants to close the shops and establishments under the threat of arms. They then called on the citizens to stage a demonstration. At around 1000 a demonstration of about 600 people proceeded from Ba'labakk's square to the citadel square. The demonstrators shouted against the United States, Israel and the state of Lebanon.

INFORMATION MINISTER COMMENTS ON LEBANESE EVENTS

JN101557 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 10 Jan 83

[Text] Comrade Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad, Ba'th Party Regional Command member and information minister, has stated that Syria was the only country which fought against the Israeli invasion forces in Lebanon, that it had inflicted huge losses in life and equipment on them, that, through its herioc fighting, it had prevented the completion of the Israeli scheme, and that it had cut the military and political results down to size, reaffirming that the Arabs have not lost their military option. In an article published in the Lebanese magazine AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI today, Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad stressed that Syria, which waged a military battle and confronted the enemy, is the one which rejected capitulation and subservience to the U.S. wish to impose hegemony over the Arabs. Syria was also the one which opened the door to hope and the future through its will to confront and fight in defense of the cause and to champion it.

The comrade minister of information spoke about the important and historic role that president leader Hafiz al-Asad assumed in the political confrontation within the FES summit. The minister said: Those who fought at the summit, despite the fact that they were small in number, were those who opposed attempts to drag the entire nation into capitulation and despair. That's why it was inevitable for the attempts to put their imprint on the summit to fail, and that is why the Fes summit resolutions on tne Arab-Israeli dispute strongly emphasized resolutions which the Arabs had adopted during their previous meetings, reiterating that no one has the right to disavow or circumvent them.

The comrade minister of information denounced the U.S. Administration's claims that Soviet weapons are useless and that the Palestinians had fought and stood fast alone. He said: The purpose of these claims was to help Israel's psychological warfare against the Syrian Army and the Syrian Arab people at large. Syria was the only country which fought the forces of invasion and inflicted heavy losses in life and equipment on them, because Syria, with its sophisticated Soviet weapons, prevented the completion of the Israeli scheme and cut the political and military results down to size with its heroic fighting. Syria also reaffirmed that the Arabs have not lost their military option, because those who lose their military option will necessarily lose their political option and will be left with only one choice: being dragged to the negotiations table with Israel to listen to and accept its conditions.

Comrade Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad reiterated Syria's confidence that the Arab masses' latent anger would inevitably become a real revolution that would embody the Arab nation's aspirations and objectives, express its free will, and revive its pan-Arab existence.

Comrade Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad analyzed the objectives behind driving the Palestinians to despair and surrender. He said that this would make them sell out their cause, alienate themselves from Syria, and set them at loggerheads with it. All this explicitly means that the Palestinians themselves would be encouraged to relinquish their cause and proclaim its liquidation. Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad added that for every Palestinian the tie with Syria is a relationship, a commitment, a struggle, and a sacrifice for the cause.

He stressed that the closer one is to Syria, the more committed he is to the Palestinian cause; the further one moves away from Syria, the more detached he becomes from the cause.

The information minister said that Syria's strength stems from that of the Arab nation and vice versa. He said that Syria wants to raise the pan-Arab banner alongside its Arab brothers, particularly the Palestinians.

The information minister condemned the hostile U.S. role in the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. He wondered how some Arab leaders could say that the opportunity lies with Reagan and that we must grab it. He noted that Washington had submitted the issue of trading land for peace. Syria, however, repeatedly refused such linkage. He reviewed Reagan's plan, affirming that it is hostile to the Arabs and violates all that was approved at the Fes summit conference, thus making it hostile to the Arab cause as well.

The information minister said that the Israeli and U.S. aim is to turn Lebanon into an Israeli protectorate. However, we must say that we reject any conditions that would harm Lebanon's sovereignty, unity, or independence. He affirmed that the security of Syria and Lebanon complement each other through a common history and destiny and that Syria is willing to help the Lebanese brothers with all it can to expel the Israeli invasion forces unconditionally.

Regarding the position in the Arab homeland, the minister noted that there are those who blindfold themselves and participate in deceiving the nation, conspiring against the homeland and falsifying facts, as well as those who capitulate, are frightened and morally defeated. Confronting the aforementioned people in the Arab world are the massess and strugglers who realize what is happening and the fate that awaits them if they capitulate. They flocked to defend their homeland and nation and raised the banner of the future with strong arms.

He said that the Arabs have two options: to move with a free and unified will and united Arab action to confront the Israeli occupation forces and their allies, whoever they may be, or to participate in executing the imperialist-U.S.-Zionist-reactionary plan in the region, either through a suspicious silence, a humiliating capitulation, or a treasonous collusion. Deception by making statements here and there is direct participation in a deviation from the Arab will and interest.

The Arab nation's unity, in terms of destiny and reality, has never been so necessary as it is today, beginning with a unified stand and arriving at sincere solidarity and an affiliation that aims at unity for the Arab masses.

The information minister concluded his statement by affirming that the future will always belong to those who struggle for it. The will of nations will forge their history.

KHADDAM LEAVES FOR NICARAGUA NONALIGNED MEETING

JN081916 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 8 Jan 83

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, left Damascus today for Nicaragua to attend the Nonaligned Movement's Coordinating Bureau meeting at the ministerial level.

The bureau will meet on Monday to discuss the tense situation in Central America and the Caribbean region.

AL-ASAD MEETS IRANIAN COMMERCE MINISTER

JN131144 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Iranian Commerce Minister Habibollah 'Asgar-Owladi-Mosalman and his delegation at 1100 today. The Iranian minister conveyed to the president a message from Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i. The president asked him to convey a message in reply to President Khamene'i's message. He also asked him to convey his greetings to the leader of the Iranian Islamic revolution, Imam Khomeyni.

During the meeting the Iranian minister expressed the Iranian leadership's high appreciation of Syria's pan-Arab stands against Zionism and imperialism. The president expressed his appreciation of the role played by the Islamic revolution in Iran as a strong bastion against Zionism and imperialism.

Minister's Departure Statement

JN132004 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Iranian Commerce Minsiter Habibollah 'Asgar-Owladi-Mosalman and his delegation left Damascus this afternoon following a 3-day visit to Syria during which he met with President Hafiz al-Asad.

In a statement to SANA, Owladi affirmed that his visit to Syria was successful and fruitful. He said: We held economic discussions with Syrian officials, reviewed current agreements between the two fraternal countries, and adopted several important resolutions and recommendations to promote and bolster economic cooperations between Syria and Iran in all fields.

He said that during this visit a joint economic committee was formed working under the supervision of the two countries' economic ministers. He said that the committee's task will be to formulate future economic plans for the two friendly countries and continuing to follow up implementation of existing agreements. Concluding his statement, the Iranian commerce minister wished the Syrian people oontinued progress and prosperity in all fields.

PARTY OFFICIAL RECEIVES LEBANESE CP LEADER

JN091538 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1430 GMT 9 Jan 83

[Text] Damascus, 9 Jan (SANA) -- Comrade Muhammad Haydar, Ba'th Party National Command member and chairman of the party's foreign relations bureau, last night received George Hawi, secretary general of the Ba'th Party organization in Lebanon. The talks dealt with the latest developments in the current political situation in the Arab region in general and the Lebanese arena in particular. They also exchanged views on means to strengthen Lebanese nationalist positions and Lebanon's will to confront the Zionist invasion forces and imperialist designs to divide Lebanon, its territory, and its people.

LIBYAN OFFICIAL ENDS VISIT TO DAMASCUS

JN091518 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1440 GMT 9 Jan 83

[Text] Damascus, 9 Jan (SANA) -- Brother 'Ali Bilkhayr, deputy general secretary of Libya's General People's Congress, left Damascus today following a 1-week visit to Syria during which he met with comrade officials in the Socialist Arab Ba'th Party. He was seen off by Comrade Tawfiq Salihah, member of the Ba'th Party Regional Command, and Ahmad 'Abd as-Salam ibn Khayyal, director of the Libyan Liaison Office in Damascus.

HABIB-BEGIN MEETING, REAGAN LETTER REPORTED

TA131222 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1128 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer -- live]

[Text] As was the case in the past, reports preceding meetings between the prime minister and Philip Habib said that the President was seething and angry, that he regards Israel as hampering the negotiations. However, whenver the two men meet, their spokesmen talk about friendship. This was also the case today. The prime minister and Philip Habib conferred in private, except for two advisers who took notes: Ambassador Lewis and the prime minister's aide, Yehuda Avner.

At the end of the meeting, the prime minister's spokesman, Uri Porat, told us the talk had been friendly. Philip Habib delivered a letter to the prime minister -- a letter written by Ronald Reagan which was described as a friendly message. Both men discussed methods for the pullout of the forces, and during their meeting they were briefed about the breakthrough in Qiryat Shemona regarding an agreed-upon schedule, an issue which Israel considered substantive and not merely as topics for deliberation. The first topic that will be discussed by the countries is ending the state of war; Israel insisted on this from the beginning of the process. Among other things, specifics of the normalization between the two countries and future relations between them will be discussed as well as the withdrawal of the forces and the security arrangements between Israel and Lebanon once the forces have withdrawn.

Now it can only be assessed that the prime minister again reminded Philip Habib that the current role of the United States is to bring about progress in the pullout of the Syrian and PLO forces from Lebanon because Jerusalem has in the last few days received reports that, contrary to their intentions in September, the Syrians do not mean and are not hastening to leave Lebanon now.

[Studio moderator] They intended to? They said so.

[Schiffer] They both said and intended. At certain points in the talks between Syrian leaders and U.S. Administration officials, they expressed such intentions. However, we are currently witnessing a romance between the Syrians and the Russians and it seems this romance is also influencing their intentions. Jerusalem has received different reports that they do not intend to rush and get out of Lebanon. Therefore, Israel is now expecting the United States to act in Damascus and the Lebanese Government to act in Tunis among the terrorists and they will start pulling out.

[Studio moderator] Is official Jerusalem perturbed by the formulation -- which the Americans seem to be repeating time and again -- speaking about the pullout of the Israeli forces from Lebanon? In other words, is that the issue being discussed and on which progress must be made? The emphasis seems to be on this.

[Schiffer] Each side emphasized the issue it regards as first priority. The Americans are seeking to return sovereignty to Lebanon, and within this framework, to achieve a pullout of the foreign forces; Israel has its own emphases.

The Israeli Government believes that through the agreed-upon agenda it reached its goal, namely that all the issues be discussed: future relations, ending the state of belligerence -- to date we have only accomplished this through the peace treaty with Egypt and it is now hoped that an agreement will be reached with yet another Arab country.

[Studio moderator] You come into the studio and I only hear whispers, compared to the cries about 90 days of hell or that the United States suspects an Israeli-Syrian conspiracy to partition Lebanon. Where have all these provocative things gone now?

[Schiffer] It seems to me that all of them are there. The U.S. Administration indeed believes that and U.S. Administration officials have indeed said as much. However, when one gets to the meeting with the prime minister -- and this had been the case many times in the past -- the tones become lower. Also, this is another facet of the same intention to score achievements and to bring about stability in Lebanon.

[Studio moderator] We will probably see the results in the foreseeable future.

REPORTAGE ON ISRAEL-LEBANON NEGOTIATIONS 13-14 JAN

Radio Reviews Agreement

TA131315 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] The Israeli and Lebanese delegations have reached an agreement [haskama] on the agenda for the negotiations. The normalization item, which caused the great dispute, was formulated as follows: A framework for bilateral relations which involves such subjects as official contacts, ending hostile propaganda, the transfer of goods, information, and tourists.

The first item on the agenda is the one on ending the state of war. The other items deal with security arrangements [sidurey], with an agreed-upon plan for a total withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanese soil, and the fifth item: possible guarantees. The parties appended a footnote to the agreement, saying that everyone agrees to deal with the subjects for debate open-mindedly and without committing themselves in regard to the results. Another note says that each delegation is permitted to raise additional subjects for discussion.

Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the agreement [haskama] on an agenda for the talks was achieved in the sixth meeting, at the end of more than 20 hours of deliberations. Everyone lauded the contribution of U.S. Ambassador Morris Draper toward achieving the formula that was acceptable to both parties.

At the joint luncheon, the heads of the delegations raised a toast and clicked glasses. Morris Draper and David Kimche welcomed the achievement of the agreement [sikum], and the Lebanese delegate, Antoine Fattal, said he would only add his address at the end of the deliberations.

End of War Clause Discussed

TA131407 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] The talks between Israel and Lebanon are continuing in Qiryat Shemona, where the first item on the agenda, ending the state of war, is being discussed.

Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that at the opening of the session, the Lebanese delegation issued a communique emphasizing the outstanding contribution of U.S. Ambassador Morris Draper toward advancing the talks. At the luncheon, the heads of the three delegations raised a toast for the attainment of the agreement [haskama] on the talks agenda. Morris Draper and David Kimche congratulated the successful end of the negotiations, but the head of the Lebanese delegation, Antoine Fattal, reserved his congratulations, saying he would only append them at the end of the talks.

Kimche Statement

TA131555 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1515 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Statement read by head of the Israeli delegation to the talks with Lebanon, Dr David Kimche, in Qiryat Shemona in the afternoon of 13 January -- recorded]

[Text] The parties to the talks have agreed to discuss simultaneously -- and that is so because of the link between them -- all the following items on the agenda: ending the state of war; security arrangements [hesderey]; a framework for bilateral relations, including such issues as liaison, ending hostile propaganda, the transfer of merchandise, goods, and people, communications, and so forth; a plan for comprehensive withdrawals; conditions for Israel's withdrawal as part of the evacuation of all the foreign forces; and possible guarantees. It should be noted that the agenda includes the subjects proposed by the delegations of Israel and Lebanon. Everyone agrees to discuss the items on the agenda with open-mindedness, and without any commitment as to the outcome of the negotiations.

Beirut on Agenda Content

NC131217 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1153 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] We have just received the following dispatch from Qiryat Shemona. It is a statement by Major 'Atif Tarabay, in which he says: An agreement has been reached among the parties that the following subjects in the agenda will be discussed simultaneously because they are interlinked: ending the state of war; security arrangement [tartibat]; a framework of mutual relations, including matters such as liaison [al-ittisal], ending hostile propaganda campaigns, movement of goods and persons, and communications; a timetable for full withdrawals; circumstances of the Israeli withdrawal within the framework of the withdrawal of all non-Lebanese forces; possible guarantees.

Remarks: This agenda included subjects proposed by both the Lebanese and the Israeli delegations. All parties have agreed to tackle these subjects with open-mindedness but without precommitment in relation to what results the negotiations may have. Each delegation can raise any other subjects in addition to the agenda.

That was the latest we received about Qiryat Shemona negotiations.

Qiryat Shemona Talks End

TA131507 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] The Israeli, Lebanese, and U.S. delegations this evening wound up their sixth session with a formulation that would make it possible to simultaneously discuss a number of issues. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that ideas were raised on establishing some subcommittees, such as one for commercial ties, a military committee, and a political committee. The suggestions broached today will be raised again by the Jerusalem and Beirut steering committees.

A senior delegation source told our correspondent that the first item on the agreed-upon agenda, ending the state of war, signifies a new legal situation between Israel and Lebanon. We have always wanted to reach this situation of an end of the state of war with our neighbors, the senior sources said.

HABIB PROPOSES 12 FEB WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN FORCES

TA140624 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] Philip Habib is proposing that the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon should begin in a month, on 12 February. Knowledgeable sources in Beirut are saying that the U.S. proposal is intended to accelerate the negotiations, after an agenda has been agreed upon. Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon regards the agreement as a giant breakthrough. Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has emphasized that there is no question for the moment of full peace with Lebanon.

In this context, it was reported that the Government of Lebanon complained to the United States that Israel is establishing sophisticated early warning stations in Jabal al-Baruk. It is said that the Israeli installations will be capable of picking up military movements in the air, on the land, and on the sea from the Persian Gulf to the Sinai wilderness. The Lebanese complaint says that the enormous investment Israel is putting into the establishment of these sensitive stations may hint that Israel intends to remain on the peak of Jabal al-Baruk, even after the IDF withdrawal. Lebanon has reported that at the next negotiating meeting on Monday, 17 January, it will submit a detailed plan for an IDF withdrawal, with a timetable.

BEN-ELISAR INTERVIEWED ON 13 JAN TALKS

TA131648 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Interview with Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee Chairman Eliyahu Ben-Elisar in the studio by unidentified correspondent -- live]

[Text] [Question] Mr Ben-Elisar, should Israel be satisfied with the subjects to be discussed, as decided today?

[Answer] Yes, certainly. We can certainly be pleased because in the end our stand was accepted, and everything will be brought to the negotiating table accordingly. But I would not make a celebration out of the fact that an agenda was agreed upon. An agenda should ultimately be agreed upon. All the difficulties are still ahead of us. There should not be any misunderstandings.

[Question] Did Israel get its wish to discuss normalization as the first subject? The order was not decided.

[Answer] Actually, it does not matter in what order the issues are discussed. The moment it was decided that everything will be discussed, then it is all the same, with the condition that everything is discussed in parallel [maqbil]. The minute Lebanon agreed, and we all know that Lebanon agreed, even before the talks began in Khaldah and Qiryat Shemona, about the subjects to be discussed, and to a certain extent about the content, then we should have reached an agreement about it after a number of opening sessions for all the crowds watching from the galleries, the Arab world, the Americans, and Western Europe, and of course, all the different crowds in Lebanon and here as well.

[Question] Was there an Israeli concession in this stage of the agenda?

[Answer] I do not think there was an important or a significant concession; perhaps there was a concession on terminology, but as I see it, this is not really a concession. There were concessions by the Lebanese as well, again about terminology. I do not think the sides conceded on the contents or the meaning.

[Question] Only in the sixth meeting of the negotiations, held today after many discussions, was the final agenda agreed upon; and in the background there were the somewhat thunderous reports about pressure from President Reagan on Israel to accelerate the negotiations with Lebanon. Do you detect that President Reagan was behind this progress?

[Answer] I certainly see U.S. influence, but not today. Today things are not connected. Actually, we do not need any encouragement, because Israel is ready to negotiate and reach an agreement very quickly. Israel is also ready to leave Lebanon as soon as possible, with the condition that all the others leave as well and if certain conditions are fulfilled. So we are not the ones who should be encouraged. Moreover, I do not think the Americans were the catalyst to either side. It might very well be that if we could have continued directly with the Lebanese we would have reached certain agreements [haskamot] faster. Therefore, I might even be ready to say that Israel should have encouraged the Americans, and I would just like to apologize for the disproportion here. With it, at a certain moment, the Americans understood that progress should be made. Then they hinted to whoever they hinted to, and they did not have to hint to Israel that progress should be made.

[Question] And after an agenda was reached, can you see the talks moving into an accelerated timetable? How do you see the timetable of events in the near future?

[Answer] I think the negotiations will be long and tiresome. All negotiations between us and any Arab country are difficult. This does not mean it is unattainable. On the contrary, it is certainly attainable. But since every word and every comma are discussed, and sometimes so is every shade of meaning, this simply takes up much time. I always mention what happened to us with the Egyptians. For months we argued over the agenda, when the agenda was not really the subject, but the things behind the agenda, the meanings, the interests, the aims, and so on. And in the end, the Camp David accord was signed which stated that within 3 months a peace agreement would be signed between Israel and Egypt, when almost everything was agreed upon already at Camp David regarding the peace treaty. And despite everything, it took 6 months, not 3 months. I have no doubt this is what will happen with Lebanon, and we are not allowed to lose patience. The Lebanese as well should not lose patience. This is the nature of the Middle East. Nothing will help.

SHARON ON AGREEMENT REACHED WITH LEBANON

TA131551 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Statement by Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon in Qiryat Shemona to our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz on 13 January -- recorded]

[Text] [Sharon] I am glad that subjects that for many weeks were discussed covertly were accepted today overtly. It is not easy to switch from secret negotiations to open negotiations, but the fact is that we did. I see it as the first step toward discussing the various items, the contents; and I believe we will reach an agreement [heskem] that will give both countries, Israel and Lebanon, security as well as normalization -- which is a central factor in security -- and will certainly also bring peace in the future, and I believe sooner than it seems.

I was visiting our forces in Lebanon today to check on their alertness, their level of readiness. I told them there that if we reached the first stage today, and we will reach the next stages in the future, no doubt it will be due to their standing in the mud, the rain, and the snow. They do it in an extraordinary way. Therefore, I think we will get there. I was glad to see something else today, in going through the border point in Metulla, when I saw the amount of traffic. In actual fact, the practical normalization preceded the formal nature we are now giving it.

Sharon Press Conference

TA131757 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] The agreement [heskem] reached today between Israel and Lebanon is the first step toward true peace between the two countries. This was stated today by Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon in Qiryat Shemona. Sharon, who returned from visiting IDF soldiers in the Al-Biqa' Valley, says that the readiness of the IDF soldiers to withstand difficult conditions enables the politicians to achieve better agreements [heskemim] for Israel. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports from Qiryat Shemona:

[Begin recording] [Hecht] The agreement over the agenda which was reached today in Qiryat Shemona is a real breakthrough, states the defense minister. We passed today into a situation in which Israel and Lebanon hold official and open discussions over subjects which are in the essence of the relations between them.

[Sharon] The agreement [haskama] over the agenda includes the main and central points which appeared in the working paper which we discussed for many weeks with official representatives of the Lebanese authorities -- things such as ending the state of war, the security arrangements, detailing the subjects of the normalization which appears in the clause on the mutual relations, movement of people, movement of merchandise, movement of products, communications, stopping the hostile propaganda and so on. All these points exist in the working paper. As in any other negotiations, there are additional points which were brought up by the Lebanese. But the most important thing is that the essential, central points, such as ending the state of war, the security arrangements, the subjects of normalization, the withdrawal, or the conditions for an Israeli withdrawal as part of the general withdrawal of the forces, all appear.

[Hecht] I am sure and I believe, says the defense minister, that the agreement [heskem] today is the first stage toward a true peace between Israel and its northern neighbor. That is, Israel is on the way to achieving all the political and security goals we set for ourselves on the eve of the Peace for Galilee operation.

[Sharon] I visited our soldiers in the Al-Biqa' today. I came to see their degree of alertness and readiness, and I found them deployed and ready in the best possible way. I told the soldiers that if we reached this achievement today, and we will make achievements in the negotiations, it is primarily due to the fact that we have soldiers who are prepared to stand in those conditions for a long period; in the rain, in the mud, in the snow -- to stand with patience and to give the political echelon an opportunity to hold the negotiations and reach the needed achievements.

[Hecht] Sharon's press conference in Qiryat Shemona was held 5 minutes' running distance from the hall in which the discussions between the Israeli and Lebanese delegations were held.

The correspondents had to show excellent physical fitness in order to cover both events. A radio correspondent, breathing heavily, asked Sharon if here was nothing strange in the timing of his visit to Qiryat Shemona.

[Sharon -- in English] This morning when I crossed to visit our troops in Lebanon I was not sure that... [interrupted]

[Hecht -- translates the above and continues] I did not know that an agreement in the talks would be reached. But I knew that an agreement between Lebanon and Israel is close at hand.

A foreign television correspondent commented that someone in Jerusalem should organize talks to bring about an agreement of understanding between the Foreign Ministry and the Defense Ministry. [end recording]

SHAMIR ON 13 JANUARY QIRYAT SHEMONA TALKS

TA131747 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1720 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir congratulated the breakthrough reached in Qiryat Shemona. Speaking about an hour ago, he totally rejected reports from Lebanon alleging that the arrangement [hesder] was reached due to the threats voiced by Lebanon that it would leave the talks. Here is a report from the Foreign Ministry by our political correspondent, Shim'on Schiffer:

[Schiffer] Apparently the success was fathered by many, and the first to congratulate it and the agreed-upon agenda was Ari'el Sharon. Earlier, David Kimche spoke, and now Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir sums up:

[Shamir -- presumably recorded] The agreement [heskem] reached today on the agenda for the negotiations between Israel and Lebanon consitutes the first success in the process of negotiations. This success opens the door on additional progress. We started discussing the first item on the agenda today, and also began talking about the most effective ways to conclude the discussions on all the other issues.

This success proves once again that there is no effective substitute for direct negotiations conducted without preconditions. The good atmosphere, the perseverence, the goodwill exemplified by all parties concerned -- and I emphasize, by all parties -- to reach an agreement [heskem] all contributed toward helping us overcome all the abundant difficulties and obstacles and reach an agreed-upon agenda.

[Schiffer] Still, Mr Minister, the Lebanese have repeatedly emphasized the fact that they complied with the U.S. proposals?

[Answer] The Americans, or shall we say, the United States, as a friend of both Lebanon and Israel, helped a lot in resolving all the disputes and in overcoming the obstacles in the negotiations, contributing substantially to the success.

[Question] Do you share the view that these talks would lead to an agreement [heskem] of a sort of full peace between Israel and Lebanon?

[Answer] At this moment, there is no talk of full peace between Israel and Lebanon. What exists is the agenda according to the items appearing on it, and we believe we will reach an agreement [heskem] on all these subjects, because it is in the joint interest of Israel and Lebanon to reach an agreement [heskem] on all the matters noted on the agenda. [end recording]

[Schiffer] To repeat, Shamir dismissed the reports emanating from Beirut alleging that the Lebanese delegation threatened to leave the talks today and that only later was the U.S. suggestion on an agreed-upon agenda adopted. He said the talks were held in a friendly atmosphere, and everyone shares this assessment.

As to the question presented with a smile on whether in anticipation of the signing of the agreement [heskem] between Israel and Lebanon Shamir was planning on organizing a tour of the north for himself, as Sharon did today, Shamir replied: I do not know what north you mean. This is Shim'on Schiffer at the Foreign Ministry.

More on Shamir Comments

TA131925 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] The foreign minister said today that Israel did not drag its feet in the negotiations and made a great effort to advance the talks. He lauded the good atmosphere in the talks and the United States' contribution. Our political correspondent Yoram Ronen notes that only when the arrangements [hesderey] for the withdrawal of the forces of Israel, Syria, and the PLO from Lebanon are agreed upon, will it be possible to say that real progress was made in the negotiations.

PRESS ON LEBANESE TALKS, TENSION WITH U.S.

TA140839 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0435 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Review of the morning press editorials]

[Excerpts] THE JERUSALEM POST thinks that despite the progress yesterday, the talks between Israel and Lebanon could last for a long time, and there will not be an agreement about a withdrawal of forces. Such an agreement is seen as urgent by President Reagan because it would provide, mainly to King Husayn, the proof he thinks necessary that the United States can settle affairs on the West Bank, too. Progress regarding the withdrawal does not depend on Israel alone. There are circles in Lebanon who would prefer the IDF to remain there. The Syrians are interested in staying on after a partial withdrawal. It is Israel that feels the greatest urgency to leave Lebanon, despite the suspicions being raised in Washington, but this is on terms that will guarantee that the war was not in vain. If Mr Reagan is serious about his plan, he should sever the artificial linkage he has created between an agreement in Lebanon and a solution of the Palestinian problem. These are two separate issues. Israel's vital interests must not be harmed by this linkage.

HATZOFE says that, with all the blessings for achieving the arrangement [hesder] for an agenda, it seems that what has been achieved is not great. The real test will be if the Lebanese agree to put content into the clauses included in the agenda, or will they continue in the future to evade any arrangement that will contain some sort of normalization between the two countries. Anyone who also skips over the word normalization must know that correct relations cannot be reached without it. When the practical deliberations begin, the Lebanese delegation will have to answer the questions connected with normalization. Its answers will decide whether the road to an arrangement has really been paved after achieving the agenda.

DAVAR writes that we may ask innocently why there is a need for a breakthrough a month after the defense minister announced the previous breakthrough; but yesterday, the defense minister rushed to describe yesterday's arrangement [hesder] for an agenda as a genuine breakthrough, as opposed to that breakthrough, which was apparently an imaginary one.

Now all is clear: The glittering breakthrough in Israeli-Lebanese relations, as the paper phrases it, was struck again and, by chance, appears before the television crews in Qiryat Shemona, at the same time as the delegations conducting the negotiations are willing to announce their progress. Indeed, a wonderful chain of circumstances: But Mr Sharon's timing cannot confuse the fact that what has been agreed upon in the Khaldah and Qiryat Shemona talks is not that Sharon document waved by the defense minister in the middle of December.

The new document is worthy of being called the Draper-Kimche document, in honor of the senior U.S. representative to the talks and the head of the Israeli delegation, who have escaped from Mr Sharon's close grasp. Second, what is said in that document is not that Israel and Lebanon agree on any substantive point whatsoever, but that finally they agree on what the substantive points are about which they disagree. From here to a real agreement is still a long way and obviously one filled with breakthroughs.

'AL HAMISHMAR says that all the relations between us and Lebanon are completely different from the relations between Israel and Egypt after the Yom Kippur war. At the same time, with all the serious doubts about the results of the rapprochement talks in Khaldah and Qiryat Shemona, we are pleased, writes the paper, that they have finally got underway. Every peacelover should welcome this, whatever his party-political positions and however pointed his criticism of the Lebanon war.

HA'ARETZ says that all the adherence to the Camp David agreements and all the different interpretations of them have nothing in them that can cancel the fact that the autonomy, which was agreed upon in principle 4 years and 6 months ago, has not yet been fulfilled. The Reagan plan is the U.S. reaction to this. Israel is complaining that Washington is trying to buy King Husayn's heart by shortening the interim period, and thus it is deviating from the text of the agreements. This way of complaining will not calm the tension between the United States and us. We have also caused this tension, as the paper phrases it, and we should have a great interest in weakening and eliminating it completely. We must get down to the deliberations on this problem as statesmen, not as lawyers.

EGYPTIAN INFILTRATORS POSSESSED HANDGRENADES

TA131532 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] A senior IDF officer has said that dozens of Egyptian attempts to penetrate Israel through the Sinai have been foiled recently. Most of these invaders wanted either to steal equipment or seek jobs, but there were some instances where people penetrated in order to carry out hostile acts. Our correspondent Yaron Enosh reports that among other things, hundreds of handgrenades were confiscated from the infiltrators. The senior officer said that the IDF is improving its means of preventing penetrations, among them by setting up a fence and digging trenches to make it difficult for vehicles to pass. The Egyptian authorities have been cooperating, but not sufficiently, the officer noted.

JORDAN DISRUPTING ISRAELI TELEVISION BROADCASTS

TA131654 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 13 Jan 83 p 4

[Report by 'Omri Mishori]

[Excerpt] It seems that the root of the problems in receiving Israeli television broadcasts in the Jordan Valley, Bet She'an, and Tiberias lies in the fact that there is no coordination between Israel and Jordan over dividing television channels.

The Jordanians broadcast on the same channel as Israeli television, but at five times the strength. Indirect contacts between Israel and Jordan to coordinate the division of channels have so far been fruitless.

According to Communication Minister Mordekhay Tzipori, VHF broadcasting equipment is now being installed in Tiberias, Rosh Pinna, Safed, and Kokhav Hayarden in order to overcome reception problems, at least in the short range. A Communication Ministry relay station is situated in Kokhav Hayarden. Experimental oil drilling about to be undertaken in the area might also cause trouble in receiving television broadcasts in hearby settlements. The drilling for oil in Kokhav Hayarden might be moved a little further away, which proves that oil is not everything....

Likud MK Beni Shalita is very active on the subject of television broadcast reception. In a motion tabled not long ago in the Knesset, Shalita says that after the Jordanians enhanced their broadcasts on the same channel used by Israeli television, broadcasts cannot be received at all in certain places in the Kinneret and Emeq Bet She'an areas. MK Shalita accuses Minister Shamir of not doing enough to coordinate channels with the Jordanians, Minister Aridor for not giving large enough budgets to solve the problem, and the minister of communication for not acting so the Jordan Valley residents will receive the Israeli television broadcasts.

"We have the opportunity to begin a broadcasting war and disrupt the Jordanian broadcast," says the communication minister in reaction, "but we prefer methods other than beginning a war over the wavelengths."

In a visit he made recently to the Jordan Valley local council, the communication minister said the Jordanians will be addressed through the Americans in order to solve the problem.

Will U.S. mediation attempts succeed in preventing another front in the Israeli-Arab conflict?

BRIEFS

DISH ANTENNAE ILLEGAL -- Israelis were warned yesterday that installation of the new rooftop TV "dish" antenna, introduced on the market here this week, is a violation of the law. The director-general of the Communications Ministry, Eliyahu Baraq, pointed out yesterday that installation of any television antenna requires a permit from the ministry. Several years ago, the ministry issued a blanket exemption from this requirement for conventional TV antennae such as private or central rooftop types, or internal aerials. "The new dish antennae are another matter, and we do not intend to permit their installation," ministry spokesman Zekharya Mizrotsky told THE JERUSALEM POST. "Israel is a subscriber-member in the INTELSAT worldwide communications satellite corporation. This satellite handles much of our overseas telephone traffic as well as the commercial television programmes the broadcasting authority buys for local telecasting. "Obviously, private access to satellites by the new antenna would not only constitute illegal phone tapping, but would also undermine the broadcasting authority's position as sole distributor of programming transmitted to Israel via satellite." [Text] [Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 13 Jan 83 p 3 TA]

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI RECEIVES PLO LEADERS 12 JANUARY

LD131047 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0845 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Tripoli, 13 Jan (JANA) -- The leader of the revolution received the Palestinian resistence unit leaders yesterday evening. They are: Secretary General of the PFLP George Habash; member of the PFLP Politburo and official in charge of the occupied territory 'Abd ar-Rahim Falluh; Secretary General of the PFLP-General Command Ahmad Jibril; spokesman for the DFLP Fadl Sharur; member of the DFLP Politburo Jamil Hilal; Secretary General of the Popular [Liberation] War Vanguards-As-Sa'iqah forces 'Isam al-Qadi; member of the pan-Arab command of the Syrian Ba'th Party and member of PLO Pan-Arab Committee Muhammad Khalifah; Secretary General of the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front Samir Ghawshah; and Secretary General of the [Popular] Struggle Front 'Ali Haytham 'Abd al-Qadir.

PDRY DEFENSE MINISTER WELCOMED BY JABIR

LD131028 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0845 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Tripoli, 13 Jan (JANA) -- PDRY Defense Minister Salih Muslih Qasim arrived in Tripoli yesterday evening. The commander in chief of the Libyan Armed Forces, Brigadier General Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, welcomed the Yemeni defense minister and his accompanying delegation on their arrival at Tripoli International Airport.

Received by Al-Humaydi

LD141022 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1620 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Tripoli, 13 Jan (JANA) -- The brother Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi, aide to the chief of the general staff of the armed forces, received this afternoon brother Salih Muslih Qasim, the minister of defense of the PDRY; and the delegation accompanying him. After the meeting, the Yemeni minister told JANA that his visit came in the context of the strengthening of the fraternal relations between the two fraternal peoples of the Jamahiriyah and the PDRY. He said that he was carrying a message from President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, the secretary general of the Central Committee of the PDRY Socialist Party and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council of Democratic Yemen, to his brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Great 1 September Revolution, concerning the situation in our Arab region, especially the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary plots to destroy the Palestinian revolution, the Lebanese Nationalist Movement, and the progressive Arab regimes.

SAUDI ENVOY REPORTEDLY TO RESUME DUTIES

LD131554 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1515 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Tripoli 13 Jan (JANA) -- The Saudi news agency, quoting a responsible source, reports that the Saudi ambassador to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah will return to his previous post as soon as is possible.

It is known that it was Saudi Arabia which took the initiative of withdrawing its ambassador from the Jamahiriyah, which does not believe in the policy of breaking off diplomatic relations with states, particularly fraternal Arab states, unless the point at issue is a case of treason or linkage with the Zionist enemy, as happened with the As-Sadat regime in Egypt.

MAURITANIA

CAPE VERDE MINISTER ARRIVES WITH MESSAGE

AB121725 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 12 Jan 83

[Text] Osvaldo Lopes da Silva, Cape Verdian minister of economy and finance, arrived in Nouakchott yesterday evening on a working visit to our country.

Mr da Silva, who is accompanied by a large delegation of the energy and mines sector, was welcomed at the airport by Dieng Boubou Farba, our minister of mines and energy. He said he brought a personal message from President Aristides Pereira to Lieutenant Colonel Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydalla, the chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state; he said he will hold talks on bilateral cooperation with Mauritanian authorities.

[Begin recording] [Da Silva] [words indistinct] I brought a message from President Aristides Pereira to His Excellency President Haydalla. On the other hand, my working visit falls within the framework of relations of cooperation existing between Cape Verde and Mauritania. Therefore, I am here to strengthen the ties of cooperation and to give a concrete definition to these relations that exist between our two countries. In other words, what we could do together. This is the purpose of my visit.

[Question] Out of the total industrial and economic production of Mauritania and Cape Verde, [words indistinct] products that could be the object of exchange between our two countries?

[Answer] According to (?one of the proposals) made by the delegation accompanying me, we shall talk about phosphate and also of the possibility of using the Nouadhibou refinery. We shall take stock of what we can exchange; what Cape Verde could sell to Mauritania and what we can get from here -- these are among the number of issues to be discussed. [end recording]

It must be observed that this morning the two ministers held their first working session with the other members of their respective delegations, including, on the Mauritanian side, the director general of the Mauritanian industries and refinery company, SOMIR. The two delegations will leave Nouakchott this afternoon for Nouadhibou where they will visit the country's principal industrial sites.

ETHIOPIA

LIBERATION FRONT BATTLE SUCCESSES REPORTED

EA140950 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Amharic 1600 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] The heroic fighters of the Tigre People's Liberation Front [TPLF] attacked a Dergue force en route from Akesum to Mara, killing or wounding over 100 Dergue soldiers and capturing 5. The heroic TPLF fighters also captured 13 Kalashnikov rifles, 1 RPG launcher, 2 pistols, and other useful items.

[Words indistinct] of the TPLF attacked a battalion-strength force of the Dergue as it was leaving Tessenei, near (Gelid). In 3 hours of fierce fighting on 11 January, between 0645 and 0945, our fighters killed 170 Dergue soldiers, wounded over 80, and captured 17, 116 Kalashnikov rifles, 14 M-14 rifles, 16 bren guns, 5 RPG launchers, 4 pistols, 2 communications radio sets, a large quantity of ammunition and hand grenades, and other useful items. Among those killed were a Dergue major, lieutenant, and sergeant.

KENYA

AIR FORCE COMMANDER FACES COURT-MARTIAL

EA111456 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 11 Jan 83

[Text] The commander of the disbanded Kenya Air Force, Major General Peter Kariuki, today appeared before a court-martial sitting at Langata Barracks charged with failure to prevent mutiny on 31st July last year. A second charge against Kariuki stated that he failed to suppress mutiny on 1st August organized by the rebels.

Commander of the Army and deputy chief of General Staff, Lietenant General Sawe, and Colonel Njuguna of the now disbanded Kenya Air Force were among the witnesses who testified against Maj Gen Kariuki. The prosecution was led by an Army major while the accused was defended by a Nairobi advocate, Mr Paul (Muite). The court-martial was presided over by the judge advocate, Aragon, assisted by a panel of five senior military officers. The hearing continues tomorrow.

SOMALIA

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON ITALIAN SOCIALIST'S VISIT

LD091906 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 9 Jan 83

[Communique released in Mogadishu by the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party [SRSP] and the Italian Socialist Party [PSI] on the 6-9 January visit of a PSI delegation led by Secretary General Bettino Craxi]

[Excerpts] At the invitation of Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, SRSP secretary general, PSI Secretary General Bettino Craxi and his delegation arrived in Somalia for an official visit on 6 January 1983. The delegation was received by SRSP Secretary General Challe Mohamed Siad Barre. The Italian delegation visited various regions of the Somali Democratic Republic including the lower Scebeli region. While in the country, the delegation held high-level talks with senior SRSP officials, the Somali Government national economic committee, the chairman of the People's National Assembly and the Standing Committee of the People's National Assembly.

Talks between the two parties began on 6 January. The SRSP delegation was led by SRSP Secretary General Challe Mohamed Siad Barre and included local party chairmen, secretaries, and their deputies. The PSI delegation was led by its secretary general, Bettino Craxi, and included a number of its senior members. The talks took place in an atmosphere of friendship and brotherhood. The two secretaries general pointed out the need to promote and strengthen cooperation and mutual assistance and to work more closely by exchanging delegations and ideas. Points discussed during the official talks covered the current world situation. The two parties stressed the need to promote cooperation between their two parties and countries and identical views were noted on the current international crisis. The leaders discussed in detail the crises facing the Horn of Africa, the Middle East, and Namibia, the apartheid policies of South Africa, the difficult Afghan situation, the Arab-European talks on the Middle East issue, the North-South dialogue, the role of international socialist parties, and relations between the SRSP and the PSI.

The two parties had an in-depth discussion of current international political, economic, social, and defense situations. They stated:

The PSI and the SRSP proclaim their concern over the current difficult situation in the Horn of Africa and agree that it is an area of great tension. The Horn of Africa is one of the major trouble spots of the world because of the armed struggle by the people of the region, who are engaged in a just struggle for their freedom against the violence of Ethiopia toward the people of the region.

The area's strategic importance has drawn world superpowers into the local conflict, which only requires the efforts of the people of the area for a solution. It is essential to safeguard the independence and sovereignty of the nations of the region. Friction and tension has been fanned there by the presence of Cubans and Soviets and their allies of some Arab and European forces. The two parties recognize that the only way to solve the problem is to allow self-determination for the region's people and by the urgent withdrawal of foreign troops. The two parties consider it imperative for the peace-loving nations of the world to take upon themselves the search for a lasting, peaceful solution to the crisis. The two parties consider that European and African socialist parties could take tangible and practical steps to find a lasting and just solution to the problems facing the Horn of Africa.

The two parties found the refugee question to be a great burden on the Somali Democratic Republic. Urgent efforts are needed for a just solution and to save of millions of people who have been forced to leave their homes and are in dire straits. This complex and difficult question can only be solved by those who love peace and freedom.

The SRSP and PSI, while believing in the principle of freedom and self-determination for all, call for UN and OAU supervised elections for the people of Namibia and for the withdrawal of foreign forces from Namibia. The two parties are strongly opposed to the ugly policies based on oppression and apartheid practiced by the so-called Government of South Africa against South African nationals. They demand democratic rule there, based on the needs and requirements of the majority of the people in the area.

The two parties consider that the international socialist parties have a duty to solve difficult global problems and work effectively with the support and confidence of the peoples of the world. For that reason, the SRSP and the PSI call upon all socialist parties to unite their forces and views to ensure that the principles of peace, equality, and the respect of humanity are observed. The SRSP and the PSI also call upon European and Third World socialist parties, particularly those of Africa, to form a united front to safeguard socialist principles.

The SRSP and the PSI stress the friendly relations of cooperation between their countries and peoples, which continue to grow daily.

The PSI secretary general's visit to the Somali Democratic Republic resulted in a further enhancement of relations leading to an agreement to cooperate and assist each other in political matters. The two parties signed a protocol agreement on cooperation and mutual assistance.

UGANDA

DELEGATION LEAVES FOR U.S. TO NEGOTIATE CREDIT

EA132342 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] A Uganda delegation has left for Washington to negotiate a long-term credit for the rehabilitation of the agricultural (?sector). The delegation is led by Ambassador Kamuntu of the office of the president and includes the governor of Bank of Uganda, Mr Kibirango, the permanent secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, Mr (?Kef Obwang), the permanent secretary, Ministry of Planning and Economic Development, Mr [name indistinct] and other high-ranking government officials.

Before he left, Ambassador Kamuntu stated that a long-term credit would enable the government to achieve its objective of (?increasing its) export earnings through the revival of export of agricultural products and maintain a high-level food sufficiency. The credit will also increase utilization of existing capacity through improvement in the availability of inputs and through repairs and equipment of broken-down factories.

PARTY DEPUTY CHAIRMAN KILLED IN AMBUSH

EA112052 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 11 Jan 83

[Text] According to reports by the Kampala vernacular daily TAIFA EMPYA, the deputy chairman of the country's ruling party -- Uganda People's Congress [UPC] -- in Mpigi within Kampala region was shot down in an ambush by unidentified gunemn. The paper said that two of the gunmen were also injured in the attack on the party official who was identified as (Frank Kigundu). The two gunmen were injured when policemen returned fire and were taken to hospital for treatment.

Another Ugandan daily, THE UGANDA POST, reported today that two men were killed and five others seriously injured when gunmen fired at a group of people dancing over the weekend in a Kampala suburb.

SECURITY FORCES-GUERRILLA CLASHES REPORTED

EA131544 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Reports from Kampala say at least 10 civilians were killed and 20 seriously wounded in incidents involving Uganda antigovernment guerrillas and security forces on Tuesday. The reports say that seven bus passengers died when their vehicle was ambushed by guerrillas at Matuga, 10 miles north of Kampala, where government troops have been carrying out protracted security sweeps. The guerrillas then attacked a car which was behind the bus, killing a couple and child inside before escaping in the car.

In another incident on the same day at Nsimbe, 15 miles west of Kampala, a rocket-propelled grenade in the rifle of a government soldier went off accidentally at a road block where a bus had stopped. At least 20 passengers were seriously wounded and a soldier died from his wounds. Unconfirmed reports from a nearby hospital said five of the passengers later died.

CHAD

JANA REPORTS 'FIERCE FIGHTING' IN NDJAMENA

LD140834 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 14 Jan (JANA) -- According to an urgent dispatch from Ndjamena yesterday afternoon, the fighting which broke out last night [12 January] is continuing fiercely in the capital Ndjamena.

Contacts between the rebel Habre and his forces in the other areas have been cut off. It is believed that the forces which have rebelled against Habre in Ndjamena are now in control of the situation. The dispatch said that in view of this developing situation Habre's fate is not known yet. It was reiterated in the capital Ndjamena yesterday afternoon that Habre might have been killed during the fierce fighting which is now taking place.

GABON

MITTERRAND URGES RESOLUTION OF CONFLICTS

PA140437 Paris AFP in English 0423 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] Libreville, Jan 14 (AFP) -- It is in the interest of African countries to settle their local conflicts in the best way possible to avoid super-power intervention, French President Francois Mitterrand urged in a radio interview here on Gabonese radio, marking his third visit to the continent as head of state.

"Wherever one of the superpowers arrives, the other is not far behind," he said. "A local conflict very quickly becomes an international conflict," Mr Mitterrand asserted.

African countries needed to come to an accomodation over their "hot spots." Otherwise, each superpower would try to take advantage, Mr Mitterrand said. The risk was that the dispute would get caught up in an East-West confrontation, he warned.

The president reaffirmed that African countries formed the basic axis for French aid to the developing world, with a major portion continuing to be set aside for the former French colonies.

GUINEA

SOVIET YOUTH DELEGATION ARRIVES IN CONAKRY

AB140853 Conakry Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Excerpt] A 374-member Soviet youth delegation led by (Abolinch Vigvald), member of the Komsomel Central Committee, arrived in Conakry from Bissau at 1800 today. The Soviet youth delegation was met on arrival at the port by a delegation of the National Committee of the Youth of the African Democratic Revolution [JRDA] led by Mamadou Ba Bangoura, the organization's secretary. Also included were Cheik Billa, member of the National Council of the JRDA, and Mamadou Saliou Balde, an officer at the General Secretariat of the organization. The leaders of the two delegations used this occasion to stress the deep friendship that unites the two youth organizations, our two peoples, and our two parties. After the welcoming ceremony, the two parties agreed on the visiting program of the Soviet youth delegation in Conakry.

NIGERIA

SHAGARI LAUNCHES CAMPAIGN AGAINST CORRUPTION

AB131559 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] A campaign against corruption and abuse of office was launched in Abuja today by President Shehu Shagari. The president launched the campaign at the swearing in of two newly appointed public officers. They are Alhaji Suleman Takuma, special adviser on political affairs, and Dr Roland Anyanwu, presidential assistant for Imo State. President Shehu Shagari described their appointments as one that carried greater responsibility and obligations and therefore the society would always look up to them as leaders whose conduct was worthy of emulation. He said that the fight against the source of social ills, crime, moral decadence and abuse of office should be intensified with determination.

President Shagari referred to the recent reported case of large-scale fraud involving the loss of a substantial amount of public funds from the Federal Capital Development Authority. He gave the assurance that during his current stay in the new capital, he would direct thorough police investigations to ensure that all those involved were brought to book. President Shehu Shagari described the incident as a matter of great concern and warned that his administration could not afford this kind of abuse. He also urged his ministers and other public officers to ensure probity in their various establishments and to take appropriate actions to correct any abuse. The swearing in ceremony was followed by the first meeting of the Federal Executive Council to be held in Abuja this year.

President Shagari is due back in Lagos tomorrow and will join in special prayers at the central mosque on the occasion of the armed forces remembrance day.

BANK PRESIDENT PRAISES SHAGARI POSITION

AB131349 Lagos NAN in English 1328 GMT 13 Jan 83

[By Samuel Ajibola]

[Text] Abidjan, Jan. 13 (NAN) -- President Shehu Shagari has been commended for withdrawing Nigeria's opposition to the opening of the capital stock of the African Development Bank (ADB) to non-African countries.

The commendation was made at the bank's headquarters in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, by the ADB president, Wila Mung'omba, who said that several African leaders with whom he was in contact had expressed "deep satisfaction" with President Shagari's gesture.

Following Nigeria's action the bank hosted a ceremony a fortnight ago, at which non-African subscribers to the ADB stock were formally admitted for participation in the bank's capital. Reviewing the implications of President Shagari's gesture in an interview with the Abidjan correspondent of the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) today, Mr Mung'omba said that the bank would now be able to raise its subscribed capital from 640 million to 2.7 billion naira and treble its lendings to needy African states.

Meanwhile, the first meeting of the bank's board of directors comprising Africans and non-Africans has been scheduled for January 25.

UK FAILURES TO ACT AGAINST APARTHEID CITED

AB131135 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] A future Labor Party government in Britain will ensure that oil produced from the North Sea does not reach South Africa directly or indirectly. That was the assurance given sometime last year by the leader of the party, Michael Foot, while speaking at the plenary session of the anti-apartheid conference in London.

According to Mr Foot, oil sanctions would be one of the two pillars of the Labor government's strategy to isolate South Africa and strengthen the anti-apartheid movement. He stated that other measures would include the stoppage of British export credit guarantees or British exports to South Africa, the banning of uranium imports from Namibia, and the ending of all trade promotions to South Africa. The Labor Party leader noted that the main force for achieving freedom and democracy in southern Africa would be the people of South Africa and Namibia themselves. A future Labor government would therefore provide material and financial assistance to the African liberation movements.

In his own address then, the leader of the Liberal Party, David Steel, described apartheid as morally offensive and humanly indefensible. He stated that the refusal of the British prime minister to condemn last year's British cricket tour of South Africa was a disgraceful abandonment of rural leadership.

The statements of the British party leaders certainly do not amount to anything spectacular as they were easily predictable. British party leaders are noted for expressing such sentiments and platitudes when they are out of office. The story is usually not the same when they have the opportunity of moving into No 10 Downing Street.

Mr Steel touched on an interesting point when he raised the refusal of Mrs Thatcher to condemn the tour of South Africa by some British cricketeers. The time of the tour was propitious as it coincided with the holding of the anti-apartheid conference in London. This coincidence might be more of an accident than design. But it must be noted that not many prominent voices in Britain had cause to condemn the tour before the London conference.

The tour of the British cricketeers was the second sporting engagement between apartheid South Africa and a white Commonwealth member nation within the past 9 months. The other was the tour of New Zealand by the South African Springboks rugby team immediately before the 1981 Commonwealth summit in Melbourne, Australia.

Those incidents were in clear violation of the Commonwealth regulation banning sporting links with South Africa by member countries. In each case, the excuse given was that the government does not interfere or regulate the activities of sporting bodies in either country. But no one has ever bothered to explain why Britain and New Zealand are still parties to the Commonwealth ban of sporting ties with the apartheid country.

In the present instance, therefore, it is doubtful whether Mr Steel would have condemned or prevented the cricket tour, if by chance he was in office as prime minister. As for Mr Foot, he really does not need to be reminded that the Labor Party which he now heads was in government until quite recently. During that time, he was a prominent member of party besides being in government and Parliament.

Nothing was said about using North Sea oil as a weapon against the apartheid regime in Pretoria. In fact Britain always vetoed along with the United States to block resolutions against South Africa in the United Nations. It is common knowledge that Britain has been one of those countries which has failed to impose economic sanctions against South Africa in line with UN resolutions, even when the Labor Party was in power. Perhaps what Mr Foot was in fact telling the anti-apartheid conference was that there is now a change of heart on the part of his party members. In that case, he should as a measure of sincerity sponsor a motion in the House of Commons to the effect that there should be an immediate end to the sale of North Sea oil to South Africa. In spite of the recent setbacks suffered by his party, it is possible that considerable support could still be generated for such a motion both in and outside Parliament. The campaign for such a motion could even help to revamp the ailing fortunes of the Labor Party under the leadership of Mr Foot.

This suggestion is not in effect doubting the sincerity of Mr Foot as an opponent of apartheid and racial discrimination. Apartheid as a state policy is a revolting phenomenon which does not appeal to any decent and civilized person. But the fact remains that Mr Foot does not need to wait until the Labor Party returns to power before becoming an active crusader against the evils of apartheid.

TOGO

INTERIOR MINISTER CONFIRMS PLOT TO KILL EYADEMA

AB131552 Paris AFP in French 1523 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Lome, 13 Jan (AFP) -- Kpotivi Tevi Djidjogbe Lacle, Togo's minister of interior, confirmed in Lome on Thursday that a commando team of mercenaries had intended to take the life of President Gnassingbe Eyadema during the celebration of the national holiday on 13 January. In front of journalists who are in Togo because of the official visit of President Francois Mitterrand, the Togolese minister affirmed that the commando team had left London via Paris for Africa a few days ago. "There is no proof of the presence of the commando team in Ghana," said Mr Lacle who did not give any details regarding its present whereabouts.

The Togolese minister reaffirmed that the commando team had been recruited by Gilchrist and Bonito Olympio, the two sons of former President Sylvanus Olympic, who was assassinated during a coup d'etat in January 1963. Mr Lacle further recalled that the 1963 coup d'etat had made possible the release of 2,507 political prisoners, some of whom were present today at the press conference to give evidence of their "arbitrary arrests" and "extremely difficult" conditions of detention to which they were subjected.

The Togolese minister of interior insisted on establishing a link between this plot and that of 1977 which was organized, according to the Togolese authorities, by the Olympio brothers, and ended in failure.

Several dozen weapons (machine guns, pistols and automatic pistols) as well as arms seized at the time, were shown to the journalists present.

EYADEMA ON COUP; OLYMPIO DENIES INVOLVEMENT

AB140820 Paris AFP in English 0352 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] Lome, Jan 14 (AFP) -- Togo wants increased aid from France to help it out of its current economic crisis, President Gnassingbe Eyadema said here Thursday shortly before French leader Francois Mitterrand arrived for a two-day official visit. The major problem was the fall in the price of phosphate, Togo's main natural resource, General Eyadema told journalists. He said an austerity policy mapped out in December would be pursued. One consequence was the cancellation of celebrations for yesterday's national liberation holiday marking the anniversary of the military coup of 1963.

General Eyadema remarked that economic development depended on political stability. The country had enjoyed that state of affairs since he became head of state when the army again took power in 1967, he said. There were only three political prisoners in Togo, the president went on. They had been detained during an attempted coup in 1977.

He alleged that the same people responsible for that attempt were also behind a new plot discovered this week. They were Gilchrist and Bonito Olympio, the sons of President Sylvanus Olympio, who was slain in the 1963 military takeover. General Eyadema referred to reports that mercenaries were to have tried to kill him during yesterday's parade after President Mitterrand's arrival. He said a Briton called John Tomkins, reportedly implicated in the 1977 conspiracy, had phoned Togo's charge d'affaires in London on Wednesday to assure him he had refused offers to join the second plot.

The same day, Togo's interior minister, Kpotivi Lacle, had gone to neighboring Ghana following reports that three or four mercenaries were in Accra. Ghanaian leader Jerry Rawlings had assured him they were being searched for. General Eyadema said three "friendly countries" which he declined to name had tipped him off about the latest moves against him. Sources identified the informants as Britain, France and the United States.

In Paris, Gilchrist Olympio dismissed the Togolese allegations as "absurd, senseless and completely made up." He said he knew nothing about what he termed a "pseudo-plot." Mr Olympio was speaking to an AFP reporter at a reception held in the French capital after a religious service in memory of his slain father. He said it was a pity President Mitterrand had gone to Togo on the anniversary date of the assassination.

LOME RADIO REPORTS ARRIVAL OF MITTERRAND

AB131820 [Editorial Report] Lome Domestic Service in French at 1648 GMT on 13 January 1983 broadcasts live coverage from Lome-Tokoin International Airport of the arrival of French President Francois Mitterrand in Togo. The announcer reports that Togolese President Eyadema and his wife arrived at the airport "5 minutes ago" to meet the French president. At 1650 GMT the announcer reports that the French president's plane touches down. At 1654 GMT the French president and his wife are met by President Eyadema amid cheers from the crowd.

The announcer reports in French at 1703 GMT that the French president is now shaking hands with some of the people at the airport. At 1705 GMT the two leaders and their wives arrive at the VIP lounge. At 1714 GMT the presidents leave the airport. At 1715 GMT the announcer says there are many people on the streets singing songs of welcome and that President Mitterrand is the great friend of Togo and the defender of the prices of raw materials. At 1735 GMT the announcer reports that the two presidents are heading toward the Presidential Palace. Live coverage of President Mitterrand's arrival ends at 1736 GMT.

UPPER VOLTA

OUEDRAOGO MESSAGES TO EYADEMA, SOVIETS REPORTED

AB140905 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Excerpts] Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo, chairman of the People's Salvation Council [CSP] and head of state, today sent two messages, one to Togolese President Gnassingbe Eyadema on the occasion of Togo's national day celebrations and the other to the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet on the death of former Soviet President Nikolay Podgornyy.

In his telegram to the Supreme Soviet, the chairman of the CSP and head of state expressed the deepest condolences of the Voltan peoples and authorities on the death of the former Soviet head of state, Nikolay Podgornyy.

ANGOLA

LUANDA: REBELS KILL CIVILIANS, DESTROY HOUSES

MB140635 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] A communique issued by the ideological department of the party committee in the municipality of (Coinga) says that at dawn on 10 January armed bands in the service of Pretoria massacred defenseless populations in the (Kavanga Nova) and (Kavanga Velha) villages, in (Coinga), Bie Province. The communique adds that two people were killed and 31 houses were burned, and goods belonging to the local population were stolen.

GABON DONATES MONEY; BONGO SENDS MESSAGE

MB131136 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Yesterday in Belas, Luanda, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, received a message from the Gabonese head of state Omar Bongo. Georges Rawiri, the Gabonese deputy first prime minister, who handed the message to our country's leader, said during the ceremony that Gabon has donated 350 million CFA francs, the equivalent of 30 million cuanzas, to victims of the South African aggression.

It is recalled that the People's Republic of the Congo has recently offered 250 million CFA francs, the equivalent of 20 million cuanzas, to our country for the same purpose.

LESOTHO

JOHANNESBURG REPORTS AIRLIFT OF ANC MEMBERS

MB131540 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Reports from Maseru say that more than 100 members of the African National Congress were airlifted out of Maseru last week and flown to Maputo. The voluntary airlift is thought to have taken several days. It is believed that the airlift was a result of the South African military raid on ANC targets in the Lesotho capital last month. The ANC leaders apparently felt that the raid had made Maseru too dangerous a base from which to launch attacks on South African targets.

The airlift is reported to have been completed only days before the arrival in Maseru of the UN delegation which is to assess the full damage caused by the raid. The delegation, which is representing the Security Council, today inspected the ANC houses which were damaged in the raid. The delegates were accompanied by senior officials of the Lesotho Government.

A spokesman for the Lesotho Department of Information and Broadcasting has declined to comment on the reports. However, he said that fugitives from South Africa were regularly taken from Maseru to other parts of Africa. Our representative in Maseru has so far not been able to obtain official confirmation of the reports. However, he says the ANC members appear to have been taken out of the country in small groups. He also reported that all Air Lesotho flights to Maputo last week were fully booked, and that two charter flights were used to take 72 passengers to Mozambique. There were two scheduled flights last week as well as the two charter flights, which means that a total of 150 passengers made use of the service to Maputo.

PRIME MINISTER JONATHAN WELCOMES UN MISSION

MB131020 Maseru Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Statement by Prime Minister Leabua Jonathan of Lesotho on arrival of UN mission to Lesotho on 11 January -- recorded]

[Text] My countrymen, we are all conversant with last month's invasion of Lesotho by South African soldiers when 12 Lesotho nationals were murdered and 30 South African refugees and other persons were also murdered, while extensive damage to property which included houses and [word indistinct] was also done. It is also known that we immediately took steps and presented the issue before the United Nations Security Council where it was tabled for us by his majesty the king, and that we succeeded to secure a unanimous Security Council resolution which, among other things, condemned South Africa's aggressive act and demanded that South Africa should pay full and adequate compensation to Lesotho for the damage to life and property resulting from their aggressive act. The resolution also requested member states to extend necessary economic assistance to Lesotho, and requested the secretary general to monitor its implementation.

Today I have to inform the nation and the refugee community in Lesotho that pursuant to the Security Council resolution, the United Nations secretary general has dispatched a hign-powered mission for an on-the-spot assessment of the damage caused by the South African invasion with a view to [word indistinct] implementation of the resolution. The mission arrived in Lesotho on Tuesday this week, and is led by the United Nations undersecretary general and coordinator for special political questions, His Excellency Mr Abdulrahim A. Farah.

While thanking the United Nations for the support given to us on this matter, I also have to thank the nation for remaining calm despite the fact that the South African raid, in which our sovereignty was trampled upon, represents the most naked provocation in recent years since our wars with the Boers in the past. Our restraint has, indeed, conformed to our norms of peace, which I trust we will continue to cherish even in the future when we face other provocations by the Boers. Let us all have hope that justice will be done and that we will be compensated and assisted to protect ourselves.

I will be giving further reports from time to time on the progress achieved by the implementation of the Security Council resolution, which is of such crucial importance to us.

MOZAMBIQUE

MAPUTO REPORTS MACHEL-CROCKER TALKS 13 JAN

MB131846 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] President Samora Machel had 2 hours of talks in Maputo this afternoon with U.S. Assistant Secretary for African Affairs Chester Crocker.

Mr Crocker, who was on his way to Zimbabwe from Madagascar, told reporters after his talks with the president that they had discussed bilateral relations and the question of security and peace in the southern African region. Mr Crocker recalled that U.S. State Department envoy Dr Wisner held talks in Maputo last month, and he added that the United States and Mozambique had some new thoughts to present to each other.

Mr Crocker said the question of negotiations for Namibian independence had also been touched upon. Asked about the linkage of Namibian independence to a Cuban troop withdrawal from Angola, he said the United States was not seeking to establish a doctrine of linkage as such.

He said the two questions were not linked in any formal legal way, and he added that the United States was continuing discussions with the Angolan Government on the matter. Mr Crocker said the United States hopes for further movement and progress on the Namibia question as soon as possible and that his government had every interest in the earliest possible independence for Namibia.

ANC MEMBERS' ARRIVAL IN MAPUTO REPORTED 13 JAN

AB131525 Paris AFP in English 1425 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Johannesburg, Jan 13 (AFP) -- More than 100 exiled activists of South Africa's banned ANC who had taken refuge in Lesotho have arrived today in Maputo, capital of Mozambique, THE STAR newspaper reported today quoting well-informed sources.

The move, in an airlift of six separate flights, followed the December 9 raid by South African troops on ANC members in Maseru, capital of Lesotho, the tiny mountainous kingdom surrounded by South African territory. In that raid, widely condemned by world opinion, 42 people were killed, 12 of them Lesotho civilians.

Earlier this month it was reported that 17 ANC activists had elected to go to Mozambique from Swaziland, where they had been held in "protective custody" by the authorities in the wake of the Maseru raid.

RESISTANCE OPENS NEW FRONT IN NAMPULA PROVINCE

MB130945 (Clandestine) Voice of Free Africa in Portuguese to Mozambique 1700 GMT 12 Jan 83

[Text] Chimoio -- The headquarters of the Moazambique National Resistance has announced that the brave fighters for the cause of liberation of the Mozambican people opened a new combat front in the Nampula Province at the beginning of this week.

GOVERNMENT APPEALS FOR INTERNATIONAL AID

MB131047 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 12 Jan 83

[Text] Today, the Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique launched an appeal to the international community for emergency food aid in view of the worst drought that has hit our country in the last 50 years. Speaking to the diplomatic corps and international organizations accredited to Maputo, Aranda da Silva, vice-president of the National Commission To Prevent and Combat Natural Disasters, said that more than 4 million people, mainly from the central and southern provinces, are affected by the drought. He informed the diplomatic corps that in the present agricultural season the shortage of rain in the country will cause an estimated shortage of 100,000 tons of grain. Seventy percent of the main cattle-breeding areas are seriously affected.

BIDS FOR OFFSHORE OIL EXPLORATION INVITED

AB131531 Paris AFP in English 1509 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Maputo, Jan 13 (AFP) -- Mozambique today invited foreign oil companies to apply for off-shore exploration rights along its coastline, saying it would favor proposals for "speedy" and "efficient" efforts leading to eventual production-sharing agreements with the state oil company.

A statement issued here by the secretary of state for coal and hydrocarbons said the results of seismic surveys conducted last year are "very positive," but a source close to the Secretariat acknowledged it could be difficult to attract interest with the present situation of over-supply in the world oil market.

Secretary of State Osman Abdul Magid said at a news conference that there had been "substantial interest" in the seismic data, but that the newly formed state oil company E.N.H. would go it alone if necessary.

The 2,000 kilometer (1,250 mile) coastline had been divided into 17 blocs and the deadline for submitting proposals is the end of September. A Mozambican official said the first leases could be signed early next year. However, negotiations are already underway with an unidentified foreign company for exploration rights in a small on-shore block in the lower Rovuma River Valley, near the border with Tanzania. The Rovuma Basin is considered to be one of the most promising oil areas, along with the area north of Beira where another two on-shore blocs have been established on either side of the Zambezi River estuary.

NAMIBIA

MUDGE WANTS ELECTED PARTY MEMBERS TO RESIGN

MB121433 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 12 Jan 83

[Text] The chairman of the South-West African ministers council, Mr Dirk Mudge, who is to resign next week, is to ask his Republican Party to recommend that the party's elected members in the white Legislative Assembly resign. He said in an interview with the South African Broadcasting Corporation that the present governmental setup in the territory was not acceptable and that he felt that his party should move away from the second tier of the government.

At Otjiwarongo the chairman of the Republican Party, Dr Paul van der Merwe, said that the party executive will meet within the next few days. The party holds seven of the 18 seats in the Legislative Assembly. The National Party of South-West Africa controls the assembly.

Mr Mudge also announced that his party would not participate in the coming by-election for a seat in the assembly of the Windhoek West constituency. The member for Windhoek West, Mr Koos Greef of the National Party, moved to South Africa.

SOUTH AFRICA

FOREIGN MINISTRY GROUP TO MEET NAMIBIAN OFFICIALS

MB141024 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1000 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] A South African Foreign Affairs Department delegation is to hold talks with political parties in Namibia; that's according to officials of a number of political parties in Windhoek. They say appointments have been made with them to meet the South African delegates on Monday. The officials say the purpose of the meeting has not been disclosed. It is also not known which officials will be included in the South African Government team.

The visit preceeds the formal resignation next Tuesday by the Namibian Ministers' Council head, Dirk Mudge.

ARMY CHIEF APOLOGIZES TO BUTHELEZI 11 JAN

MB121142 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 12 Jan 83 p 1

[Text] Durban -- The South African Army chief, General Jan Geldenhuys, yesterday apologised to the president of Inkatha, Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, and members of the KwaZulu Cabinet for incidents involving intimidation of members of Inkatha in the disputed Ingwavuma District. General Geldenhuys said he regretted the incidents and assured Chief Buthelezi, who is also KwaZulu minister, these would not recur.

This was the outcome of a two-hour meeting at Ulundi involving the KwaZulu Cabinet and senior members of the South African Defense Force and the South African Department of Health. Among those who attended were the officer commanding Natal command, Brigadier P.E.K. Bosman, Dr Howard Botha, senior official of the Health Department in Pretoria and Dr Johan van Rensburg, Natal director of the State Health Department.

The meeting was called following reports to the chief minister by villagers in the Ingwavuma District that white soldiers had been quizzing them about their membership of Inkatha. They allegedly asked the villagers what the movement did for them and reminded them that it was army personnel who had helped to supply water during the drought in KwaZulu in 1980 and during the cholera outbreak at the end of 1981. Chief Buthelezi said he had shown the Defense Force officials copies of sworn affidavits obtained from the people involved. He told General Geldenhuys and Brigadier Bosman that neither the police nor the army had political responsibilities in the areas they patrolled and he did not expect the police and the Defence Force to campaign against Inkatha.

The Inkatha president said he appreciated what the army had done to help KwaZulu in some of its hospitals. There were hospitals, he said, which would have no doctors at all if it were not for the availability of army doctors.

ZAMBIA

KAUNDA ANNOUNCES CHANGES IN GOVERNMENT POSTS

CA141138 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] President Kaunda has transferred the responsibilities of the Ministry of Finance to the prime minister and appointed the (?former minister) to take charge of the Ministry of Transport. To ease pressure of work on the prime minister, the president has taken over the chairmanship of Zimco [words indistinct] who now becomes deputy chairman. A new ministry has been created and will be called the Ministry of Cooperatives [words indistinct] recognizing the transfer of economic power to the people.

Addressing a news conference in State House [word indistinct] this morning, the president said the new (?leaders) are in line with the present economic crisis, which must be tackled ruthlessly with love, unity, hard work and patriotism. The president said the economic crisis has been brought about by [words indistinct] where the government has been subsidizing the cost of living under the belief of the importance of man and the oil crisis since 1973, the high prices, (?foreign imports) and the (?declining) prices for raw materials like copper. [sentence as heard]

Dr Kaunda said in order to draw ourselves out of this crisis, Zambians must have a view to the cost of living and sacrifice. The new minister of cooperatives would also for the time being, be aided by Mr Justin Mukando as minister of state and the member of the committee responsible for industrial participation and democracy and will in turn be responsible to the prime minister.

President Kaunda explained that the transfer of the former finance minister has nothing to do with his (?mistakes) but because the minister of finance has to coordinate all economic matters in the country, [words indistinct] the president said Mr Musokotwane was a cabinet minister and could, therefore, not coordinate such matters with his colleagues. He has transferred Mr Cosmas Masongo from the Ministry of Labor and Social Services to replace Mr Mukando at the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Development in the same capacity.

NUJOMA ARRIVES IN LUSAKA FOR TALKS WITH KAUNDA

MB111833 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 11 Jan 83

[Text] South-West Africa People's Organization President Sam Nujoma has arrived in Lusaka from Luanda for talks with President Kaunda. Mr Nujoma, who arrived in the afternoon, was met at the Lusaka International Airport by the chairman of the Legal and Political Commission, (Ruben Kamanga), and several senior party and government and SWAPO officials based in Zambia.